麻生沙也子

レーブル化粧品、敏腕宣伝部員。
阿川とまさかの熱愛中。

天海玲菜

更に小さくなって、小学生
くらいの肉体に。本当は19歳。

Cupid II
Volume.3
"Cherry Syndrome"

●COVER ILLUSTRATION／北崎 拓
●TITLE LOGO & COVER DESIGN／安斉 秀+ペイブリッジ・スタジオ

さくらんぼシンドローム

クピドの悪戯II

Cherry Syndrome

3

Taku Kitazaki Presents

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Young Sunday Comics

YS COMICS

さくらんぼシンドローム
クピドの悪戯II
3
Cupid II
Volume.3
Taku Kitazaki Presents

北崎 拓

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れなにキスして小さくなるのを防ぎたいものの、あまりに障害が多すぎる!
今、一番目が離せない恋物語、ますますスリルな第3巻!

Young Sunday Comics

今、一番おもしろい
YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS

さくらんぼシンドローム-クピドの悪戯II- 1～3巻－北崎拓
クピドの悪戯-虹玉- 全7巻－北崎拓
なんてっ探偵 アイドル 全18巻－北崎拓／井上敏樹
ほしのふるまち 1～4巻－原秀則
1ポンドの福音 全4巻－高橋留美子
日本一の男の魂 1～18巻－喜国雅彦
Dr.コトー診療所 1～21巻－山田貴敏
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北崎 拓
Taku Kitazaki
7月27日生まれ。兵庫県出身。AB型。
代表作［たとえばこんなラブ♡ソング］
［ふたり］［まずらお］。
日本を代表する恋愛漫画家。

さくらんぼシンドローム

Cherry Syndrome

「クピドの悪戯Ⅱ」

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YS COMICS

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Cupid Ⅱ Volume.3

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Cupid II
Volume.3
Taku Kitazaki
Presents

北崎 拓

小学館

Young Sunday Comics

THE ARROWS THAT CUPID,
OF ROMAN LEGEND FAME
WOULD SHOOT AROUND AT A WHIM
HAD AN UNCANNY POWER
THAT LET HIM HAVE MEN
AND WOMEN'S HEARTS AT
HIS BECK AND CALL.
ANY HUMAN BEING WHOSE
HEART HE PIERCED WITH
A GOLDEN ARROW
WOULD AWAKEN TO LOVE,
AND THERE WAS NO PASSION
THAT WOULDN'T BE
SQUELCHED AFTER A SHOT
FROM HIS ARROWS OF LEAD.
NOWADAYS,
SHOULD CUPID EVER GET
IN A MISCHIEVOUS MOOD...

Young Sunday Comics

THE STORY SO FAR.
AGAWA MUNENORI IS A COMPANY EMPLOYEE.
AMAMI RENA LOOKS LIKE SHE COULD BE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL,
BUT UPON APPROACHING HIM SHE CLAIMS THAT "SHE'S ACTUALLY 19,
AND THAT SHE NEEDS HIM TO KISS HER IF SHE IS TO STOP
HER BODY FROM GROWING INCREASINGLY YOUNGER AND SMALLER."
AT FIRST AGAWA DOESN'T BELIEVE HER IN THE LEAST.
BUT AFTER A ROW THAT BRINGS THEIR PAST HURTS BACK TO THE SURFACE,
KISSING COMES TO THEM NATURALLY. RENA THEN PROMPTLY LEAVES,
AND PERHAPS BECAUSE HE'S JUST CONFRONTED HIS PAST HEARTBREAK,
AGAWA CONFESSES HIS LOVE TO HIS SENPAI ASOU SAYAKO SHORTLY AFTERWARDS.
SHE IS RELUCTANT AT FIRST, ONLY GIVING IN BECAUSE OF HIS INSISTENCE.
BUT ONCE IT IS DONE SHE CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF HIM.
THEY EVEN CONTEMPLATE COHABITATION WHEN RENA SHOWS UP,
EVEN YOUNGER THAN BEFORE.

さくらんぼシンドローム

クピドの悪戯II

Cherry Syndrome

3

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北崎拓
Taku Kitazaki Presents

CHAPTER 9:
MIGHT AS WELL

第19話:
いっそのこと…

YOU MEAN YOU'D KISS ME EVERY DAY..?

REALLY ..?

2

SER-IOUS OR NOT...

...IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR KISS, BAD THINGS WILL HAPPEN, RIGHT?

ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THIS?

...NOT NOW THAT I'VE SEEN WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU

I CAN'T TURN MY BACK AND JUST WALK AWAY...

BUT AGAWA-SAN...

...YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND, NOW.

.....

AND SHE'S PRETTY, TOO.

I... UH...

.....

.....

!

UH...

GO-GOSH. I NEED TO HURRY IF I WANT TO CATCH THE LAST TRAIN.

I-I'M SORRY. I'LL BE ON MY WAY, NOW.

AAAAAH!

AH...

THAT SAID...

MAAN, I FEEL LIKE I LANDED IN FRONT OF A COUPLE, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING. LIKE, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH MYSELF

RUKI-KUN.

AGAWA-SAN...

...YOU LOOK LIKE A NICE ENOUGH GUY, JUST LIKE RENA SAID. I FEEL BETTER NOW.

ALRIGHT, THEN. THANKS FOR THE MEAL.

I'LL COME ASAP BY TAXI, IF I HAVE TO.

YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST GIMME A CALL.

RUU-KUN...

カチ

カチ

.....

ハー...

.....

カチ

.....

カリカリ

...THAT DISEASE THAT TURNS YOU BACK INTO A CHILD WAS FOR REAL...

BUT ...

DAMN ...

I'VE BEEN WONDER-ING IF YOU WERE ALRIGHT ...

DURING THIS COUPLE OF MONTHS SINCE I LAST SAW YOU ...

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT...

COME OVER HERE. HAVE A SEAT.

.....

ヘタ。。。

UH-HUH...

...HOW LONG DOES IT KEEP THE SYMPTOMS AT BAY?

WHEN I KISS YOU.

.....

...YOUR ACS ENZYME IS AMAZINGLY EFFECTIVE. WELL BEYOND HER EXPEC-TATIONS...

ACCORDING TO THE DOCTOR...

24 HOURS --

BY MY RECKONING, THE CS ENZYME SHOULD REMAIN COMPLETELY INACTIVE FOR A LITTLE MORE THAN 24 HOURS AFTER THE ACS INTAKE.

YOUR CS ENZYME WAS ON THE BRINK OF CAUSING YET ANOTHER AGING REVERSAL, AND THE ACS ENZYME YOU TOOK FROM AGAWA MANAGED TO RESET THE PROCESS ENTIRELY.

..YOU WERE ABLE TO AGE LIKE A NORMAL PERSON WOULD.

..FOR THIS DAY, AND THIS ONE DAY ALONE...

IN OTHER WORDS ...

YES.

WHICH IS TO SAY YOU'VE SPENT AN ENTIRE DAY FREE OF THE CS ENZYME'S INFLUENCE.

..ALLOWED YOU TO GET ONE DAY CLOSER TO ADULTHOOD. JUST ONE DAY.

ONE KISS FROM AGAWA-SAN ...

BASIC-ALLY, AGAWA-SAN...

...ONE DAY, ONE KISS.

AND I'LL BE ABLE TO GROW BACK INTO ADULTHOOD.

IN TIME, IT WILL ADD UP.

ONE DAY,
ONE KISS...

CAN YOU
DO THIS,
AGAWA-
SAN?

RENA?

?

WHE-
WHETHER
I CAN OR
CAN'T,
THAT'S
NOT THE
QUESTION
--

.....

CONSIDER THIS DECISION CARE-FULLY..

GIVE IT ANOTHER THOUGHT.

YOU MAY AGREE TO KISS ME NOW, IN THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT_

RENA?

YOU MIGHT GET SICK OF IT.

I_

I_

..YOU MIGHT CHANGE YOUR MIND, OR GOD KNOWS WHAT ELSE...

BUT SOME-DAY...

..SOME-WHERE ..

I'D RATHER YOU ABANDONED ME NOW..!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT. EVER.

THE POOR THING WAS TREMBLING

I COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL SORRY FOR IT.

IT REMINDS ME OF THAT SNOWY DAY, WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I LIVED IN AN APARTMENT, SO KEEPING A PET WASN'T AN OPTION

MY MOM GOT ANGRY

...MADE ME EVERY BIT AS GUILTY AS WHOEVER LEFT IT BEHIND TO BEGIN WITH.

SURELY ABANDONING IT AGAIN

THAT LITTLE PUP MUST HAVE DESPISED ME...

AND NOW HERE I WAS, PUTTING IT THROUGH THE SAME THING YET AGAIN

TASTING SUCH DESPAIR ONCE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN INVOLVED IN THE FIRST PLACE

THERE'S MORE AT STAKE HERE THAN A MERE STRAY PUPPY.

THINK THIS OVER CAREFULLY...

SHE CAN HARDLY CLING TO IT...

...WHILE I MAY REPRESENT SOME SORT OF HOPE FOR HER.

THAT ILLNESS IS HURTING HER DEEPLY...

I MIGHT AS WELL DO IT NOW

THEN JUST LIKE SHE SAID

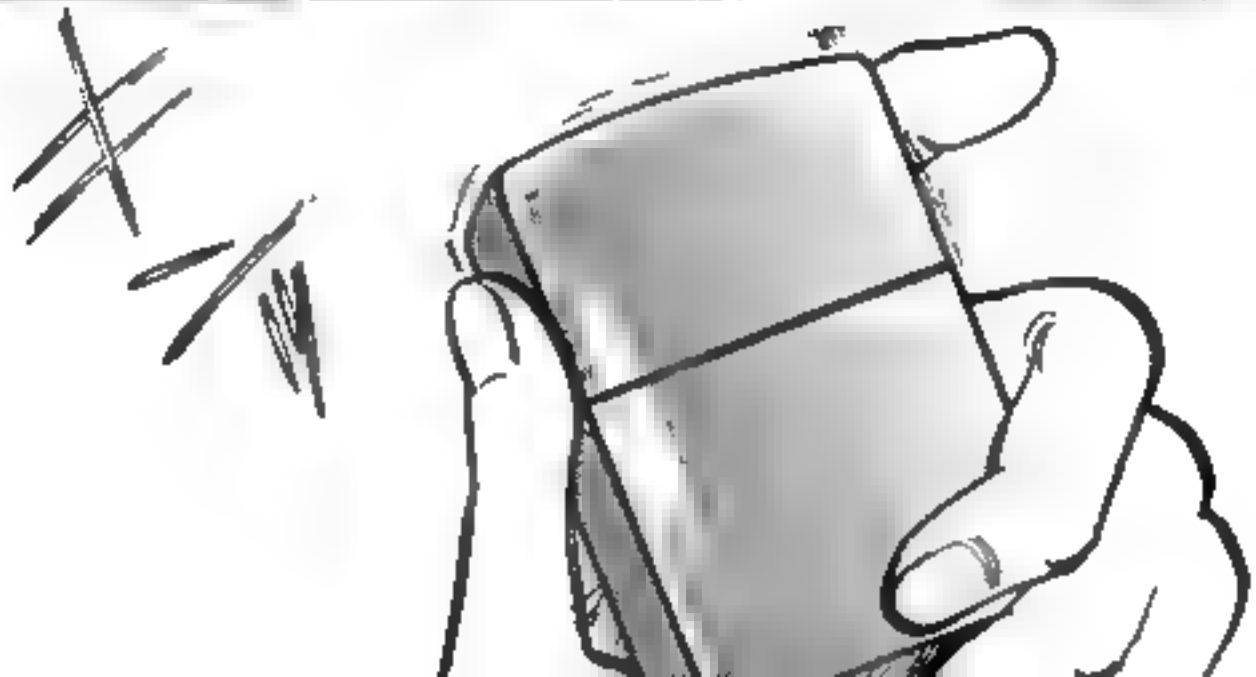
IF I'M GONNA LET HER DOWN

THIS IS PROBABLY... TOO MUCH FOR HER TO TAKE.

...I'M BOUND TO DISAPPOINT HER SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE

IF I MAKE INCONSIDERATE PROMISES WITHOUT ANY RESOLVE TO BACK IT UP...

...KNOWING THAT I'M JUST A STRANGER. HOW CAN SHE RELY ON ME AT ALL?



RENA?

...I'M ALREADY INVOLVED INTO THIS ANYWAY...

HEY ...

.....

READY TO HELP YOU OUT. FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES.

I'M READY.

I'LL TALK TO HER, OF COURSE.

BU-BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR GIRL-FRIEND...

...SHE'S A SMART GIRL, TOO. SHE'LL UNDER-STAND, I'M SURE.

SHE'S NOT JUST PRETTY --

IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS REAL KISSING BETWEEN LOVERS.

SURE.

OH, WELL --

BUT...

THOUGH SHE'S GONNA HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING ME RIGHT AWAY, I SUPPOSE...

IF... IF YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THIS...

...I'M GLAD...

I'M REALLY GLAD.

WHO COULD IT BE, THIS LATE AT NIGHT..?

AH!

!

DING DONG

UH.. YEAH, I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT..

I'M BETTING SHE CAME BACK OUT OF CONCERN.

MUST BE RUU-KUN.

!!

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, I'M COMING.

SFX: DING DONG.

A...
ASOU-
SAN?!

?

ASOU-SAN?!

CHAPTER 20 - WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

第20話：何してんの？

WH... WHY?! WHAT HAPPENED TO "BYE BYE, SEE YOU ON MONDAY AT THE OFFICE?" THAT WAS A FEW MOMENTS AGO.

"

2

?

RIGHT OUT OF THE BLUE...

SO WHAT IS SHE DOING IN FRONT OF MY DOOR ?!

?

THE-THE SHOES...

RENA'S SHOES!!

?

ポイッ
バタン
……
!
AH...
I'LL TALK TO HER, OF COURSE ...
I'M READY. READY TO HELP YOU OUT. FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES...

ぴぃ

ぴぃ

ぴぃ

ぴぃ

grow!!

...SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF "I CAN HANDLE THIS"?

I ASSUME THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO MEAN...

ガーン

？

？

……

6

……

I THOUGHT I'D CUM BY...

……

ドキ

UM.. WELL?

ドキ

UH? YOU DON'T FIND IT FUNNY?

FACEPALM

DON'T TELL ME...

...YOU WENT THROUGH ALL THE TROUBLE JUST IN ORDER TO PULL THAT ONE OFF?

NO... I'M NOT...

YOU MAD?

OH, YEAH, IT'S FUNNY ALRIGHT ...

SO THOSE HAND SIGNS OF YOURS ACTUALLY MEANT "DON'T WORRY, I'M GONNA HIDE MYSELF."?

ARE YOU HIDING?!

RENA!

RENA!!

HAH HA... SHALL I INTRODUCE YOU?

TODOM

ACTUALLY YOU'RE HIDING ANOTHER GIRL, EH?

AND HERE I WAS, THINKING THAT SORT OF THING ONLY HAPPENED IN BAD SOAP OPERAS !!

...SHE MUST BE IN THE CLOSET.

...IF SHE REALLY IS HIDDEN —

ASSUMING SHE IS ...

WAS THERE ANY POINT IN CONCEALING HER AT ALL, TO BEGIN WITH?

NEVER-MIND THAT—

HOW DO I KEEP ASOU-SAN FROM NOTICING HER EVENT-UALLY?

IF SHE'S REALLY HOLED UP IN THERE.

IF ONLY I HADN'T PUT HER SHOES AWAY WITHOUT THINKING IN THE FIRST PLACE_!!

AH, RIGHT...

BUT WITH HER HIDDEN, HOW AM I GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS?!

IT'S NOT LIKE THERE WAS ANYTHING INAPPROPRIATE BETWEEN RENA AND I.

WAI...

WAIT A MINUTE...

THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE!!

—WHAT— ABOUT THE 3 COFFEE CUPS ON THE TABLE? THE ONES FOR RENA, HER FRIEND AND, I

FROM THERE, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CASUALLY EXPLAIN EVERYTHING ABOUT RENA AND HER ILLNESS!

ON THE CONTRARY, IT'S PROOF THAT WHOEVER WAS THERE A FEW MOMENTS AGO, I WASN'T ALONE WITH, THEM!

NO.

SFX: GIDDY GIDDY 9

...AND GO TAKE A SEAT !!

JUST WALK OUT OF HERE CASUALLY...

RENA!

PLEASE!!

THERE'S HARDLY ANY ROOM FOR SUCH SUSPICIONS !!

HONESTLY, YOU CAN'T LOOK AT HER AND IMAGINE SHE AND I ARE LOVERS OR ANYTHING. SHE LOOKS LIKE A LITTLE GIRL!!

SHE HID THEM AWAY ALONG WITH HER-SELF...

RENA NOTICED THE CUPS ALRIGHT...

...NOW SHE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO STAY HIDDEN ALL THE WAY!!

THAT SAID —

GOOD JOB PUTTING ME IN WAY OVER MY HEAD, I SUPPOSE...

CORN-ERED...

WHY, I WAS EXPECTING A VERITABLE CARNAGE, RIGHT THERE.

I'M DIS-APPOINT-ED.

AAAAAAAAH!!

I NEED TO SUSPEND THIS SOMEWHERE. I'LL BE BORROWING YOUR CLOSET.

☆

WHU... WHUUUUUUU?!

THIS WAY I CAN GO STRAIGHT TO WORK FROM HERE.

I WAS EXPECTING CLOTHING EVERY-WHERE...

IT'S GOTTEN FAIRLY EMPTY IN THERE.

THERE'S A SIMPLE EXPLANATION TO THAT. I'VE SPENT SO MUCH TIME AT YOUR PLACE, AFTER ALL.

HEE HEE...

HUH...?

RENA... THAT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING...

.....

DON'T YOU AGREE?

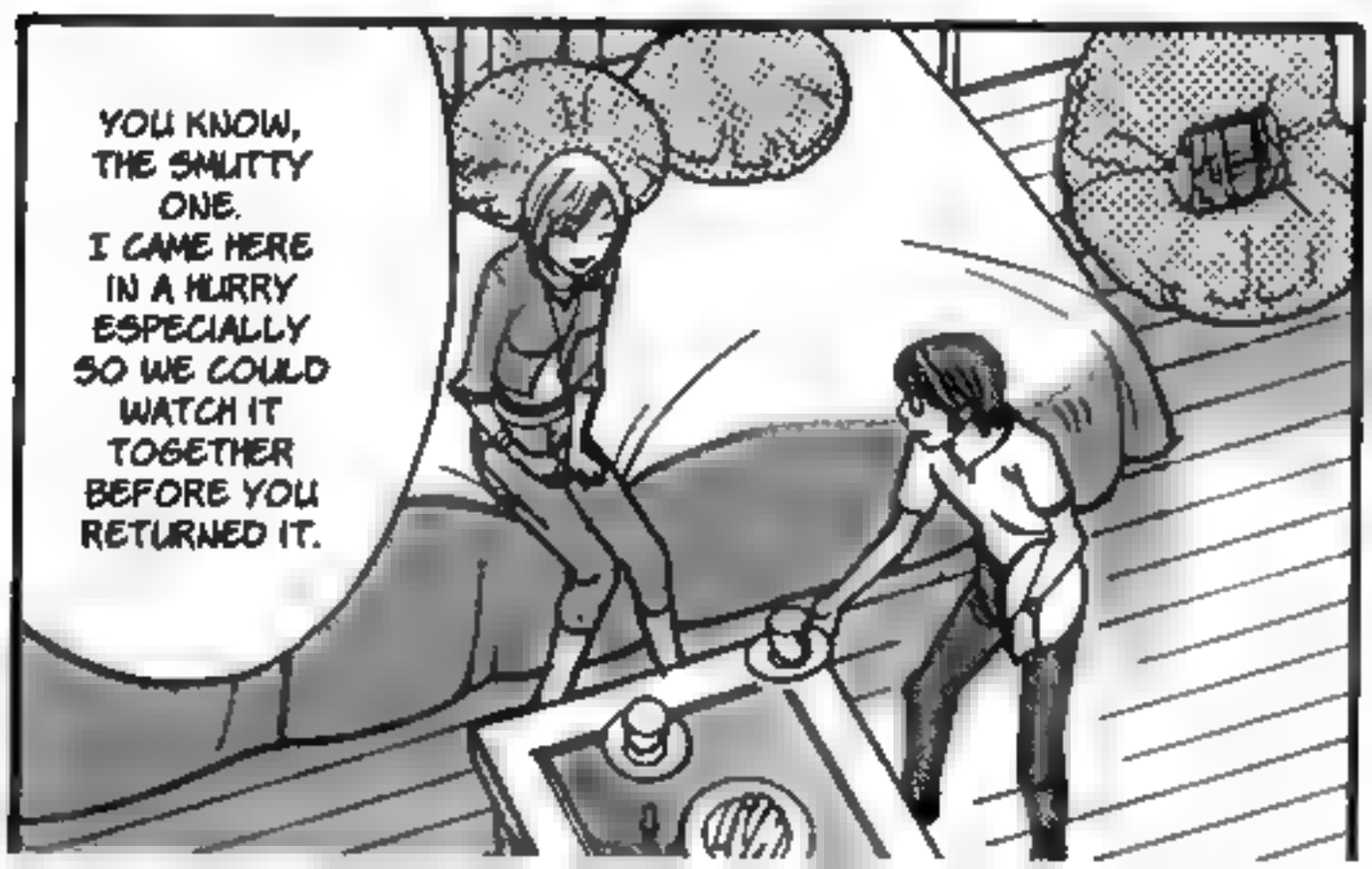
THIS IS GONNA MAKE YOUR MOVING THAT MUCH EASIER.

HNNN
PSIT
HNAA...
PFWAH
...

.....
3 3 3

DVD.
HM?

WHA-
WHAT
ARE YOU
LOOKING
FOR?


YOU KNOW,
THE SMUTTY
ONE.
I CAME HERE
IN A HURRY
ESPECIALLY
SO WE COULD
WATCH IT
TOGETHER
BEFORE YOU
RETURNED IT.

I-I'VE ALREADY RE-TURNED IT...

I'M CURIOUS TO SEE WHAT YOUR TASTES ARE IN THE MATTER.

I'M NOT THE KIND OF GUY WHO'S GONNA WATCH THAT SORT OF THING IN FRONT OF A GIRL...

EVEN IF I DID...

I THOUGHT YOU'D WATCH IT AT LEAST ONCE BEFORE DOING THAT

THAT WAS FAST!

NOT ANGRY AT ALL, BUT I'M SURPRISED, THAT'S FOR SURE.

.....

YOU'RE REALLY MAD AT ME FOR BARGING IN, AREN'T YOU?

.....

UH?

I'M GOING 85 MPH!

...IS THE SORT OF THING THAT'S GUARANTEED GET A WOMAN'S SPIRITS LOWER THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE.

YOU KNOW, SLEEPING ALONE IN A BROKEN BED...

WHAT'S THE DEAL?

...YOU START TALKING LIKE A GUY, ALL OF A SUDDEN.

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

LET'S PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF YESTER-DAY.

HWACHAH!

WHOA!

WELL ...

YOU MEAN I MIGHT BREAK IT LIKE I DID MINE?

.....

FLICK

BU... BUT MY BED IS AS CHEAP AS YOURS USED TO BE.

.....

HAHAHA...

SHUDDER

GOOD!

SO HOW ABOUT WRECKING YOURS TOO?

IF I GET CORNERED INTO THIS, RENA'S NEVER GETTING OUT OF HERE...

WE'LL GET A NEW BED IN A FEW DAYS. A SOLID ONE.

AH. UH, YEAH.

UM... SAY, HOW ABOUT A SHOWER?

I NEED A SHOWER! I'M THE ONE WHO WALKED AROUND ALL DAY

NO, YOU'RE NOT.

AM I THAT SWEATY ?

SFX: SNIFF SNIFF.

BE MY GUEST

THANK YOU

ガラ

SHAAAAAA

UUUUGH. I'M FREEZ-ING.

QUIET!

HURRY UP!

RENA!

LIH. AHEM ...

TOMORROW'S NOT AN OPTION, SO SEE YOU ON MONDAY.

I NEED TO GO ...

BATH-ROOM ...

WATCH IT WITH THE NOISE ...

...CCCC

IT WAS COLD OUT-SIDE, SO...

I-I CAN'T ANY-MORE ...

NO...

HOLD IT UNTIL YOU GET OUT OF HERE.

...DON'T STAND SO CLOSE TO THE DOOR.

YEAH, WELL ...

HU-HURRY.

SHE'LL GET OUT OF THE SHOWER ANY TIME, NOW.

SHE'S WASHING HER HAIR.

DONE ...

!!

HEY, AGAWA-KUN. ABOUT THAT SHAMPOO OF YOURS...

HM?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

CHAPTER 21 - YIELD?

第21話：降参？

SOME-THING WRONG?

?

.....?

.....

...TO GO BUY SOMETHING AT THE CONVINI...

I THOUGHT I'D TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR TIME IN THE SHOWER...

AAAAAAH!

AH...

YE-YEAH. GOTTA GET SOME EQUIPMENT...

CONVINI?

WELL, YEAH..

.....

PARDON?

SEE...

...YOU DID SAY IT WAS YOUR DANGEROUS DAY OF THE MONTH, RIGHT?

UH- HUH..

.....

YOU THE GIRL, OVER HERE!! WHO CARES WHAT I'M SAYING, DON'T YOU JUST STAND THERE. GET A MOVE ON!!

HM?

...BEFORE I'M CORNERED INTO HAVING SEX...

GOTTA GET RENA OUTTA HERE!

...

AH!

NO-NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT!

UH?

WHAT ABOUT THOSE YOU BOUGHT THE LAST TIME YOU CAME TO MY PLACE?

OF COURSE NOT!!

IT'S JUST THAT I ...

NO-NO, I DIDN'T —

YOU USED THEM WITH SOMEBODY ELSE, DIDN'T YOU?

LET ME GUESS —

4

SO. WHAT IS IT ABOUT MY SHAMPOO..?

A-AM I SUPPOSED TO UNDER-STAND SOME-THING?

"OF COURSE NOT". WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

YOU'VE BEEN USING VIDAL SALOON, HAVEN'T YOU?

DID YOU CHANGE YOUR SHAMPOO?

COME ON, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE LIVING WITH A GIRL.

UH... UUUH-UUH...

I THOUGHT IF I USED A MAN'S SHAMPOO WHEN I GO TO WORK THIS MONDAY, I MIGHT GET A REPEAT OF WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU THE LAST TIME.

AH, YEAH.

!

WHICH IS WHY I WANTED TO ASK YOU TO GO BUY ME SOME.

IT CAN WAIT TILL TOMORROW. I'LL COME WITH YOU THEN.

NEVER MIND.

THI-THIS IS MY CHANCE TO BAIL RENA OUT...

AH, ALRIGHT, THEN.

I'LL GO GET IT RIGHT AWAY, SO GET BACK IN THE SHOWER, GO AHEAD.

6

EH?
HERE.

WIPE ME DRY.

8

HOW MUCH MORE AWKWARD CAN YOU GET?

AH, AGAWA-KUN...

9

NOT SINCE THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU. NOT EVEN WHEN WE STARTED DATING.

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE BIT.

EH?

WELL, YOU KNOW...

WE...

YOU MUST BE FAIRLY SUCCESSFUL WITH THEM OLDER GIRLS, RIGHT?

IF-IF YOU SAY SO.

TO BE HONEST ...

...PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE HARD TO FIGURE OUT.

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW IF YOU'VE BEEN UN-FAITHFUL, YOU SEE?

.....!

ぐっ

おそろ おそろ...

.....

YOU ALWAYS LOOK SCARED OUT OF YOUR MIND, AS IF YOU WERE HIDING SOME-THING...

SEE WHAT I MEAN?

AND THAT'S YOU.

I LOVE ONLY ONE WOMAN RIGHT NOW, ASOU-SAN.

JUST WHEN I'M DONE THINKING YOU'RE A WIMP, YOU GIVE ME THAT INTENT LOOK RIGHT OUT OF THE BLUE...

.....

EEEH... HAHA...

FOR A GUY, YOU SURE CAN BE PRISSY.

WHAT ABOUT RENA-? I MEAN, ...

WAI...

WAI...

ASOU-SAN...

ｶﾁｬﾘ

I-I NEED A SHOWER TOO...

RENA'S NOT ON THE VERANDA

ガラッ

ヒュー

_SHE'S REALLY HIDING INSIDE THE CLOSET!!

THIS TIME AROUND —

WHICH MEANS THIS TIME AROUND_

OW...

SIGH

TONIGHT, YOUR FRIGHTENED SHEEP LOOK WILL DO JUST GREAT. ♥

THAT'S THE LOOK, RIGHT THERE. ♥

!

KE-KEEP THE KINKY TALK TO A BARE MINIMUM, PLEASE...

AHEM... HEM... THERE'S AN INNOCENT YOUNG GIRL INSIDE THAT CLOSET...

.....

I ENJOY FEELING LIKE A BEAST, RAVAGING A POOR LITTLE LAMB.

IT'S OVER. THERE'S NO STOPPING HER NOW THAT SHE GOT STARTED!

.....

RAWRRR. ♥

RAWRRR.

RAWR. ♥

ROARING?

RAWRRR.

RAWRR. ♥

MEO-WRR!

.....

RAWR.

SHE'S GONNA HEAR US AT IT...

THERE'S A YOUNG GIRL IN THAT CLOSET..

GI... GIMME A BREAK

UHL

I'VE BEEN THINKING_

THIS IS SICKO MATERIAL RIGHT THERE!

YET HERE I AM, STUCK PLAYING THE DISTRESSED MAIDEN!

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO HAVE SEX IN THOSE CONDITIONS ?

I'M NO CAVEMAN...

YOU'RE A GENUINE MASOCHIST, AGAWA-KUN.

HAH

HAH

.....

MAJOR SCHIST ?

.....

UUH...

IT'S LIKE THAT LITTLE PLAY HAS MADE YOU MORE RECEPTIVE THAN USUAL...

I'M IN TROUBLE BIG TIME ...

I'M IN TROUBLE ...

RENA!!

.....

...WITHOUT A FIGHT AT ALL?

WHAT'S THE MATTER ?

ARE YOU GONNA YIELD...

!!

20 SFX. GUUURRRRRRGGGGGLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLL TN: STOMACH NOISES

!!

CHAPTER 22 - I AM RELIEVED

GURRRR

GJKOJJJJJJE

第22話：
安心しました。

.....

.....

ASOU-SAN MUST HAVE HEARD IT TOO... HAS SHE?

THERE'S NO MISTAKING THAT NOISE FOR SOME-THING ELSE...

THAT WAS... RENA'S STOMACH

2

.....

WHAT WAS THAT NO...

.....

...UH?

AAAAAH?

IT WASN'T AGAWA-KUN BUT ME?

MMM

EEEEEEK WAS THAT ME?

I'M SORRY..!!

ASOU-SAN...

I GUESS I'M DONE DIGESTING THOSE SUSHI...

OH, MY...

EEEEEEK

AAAAAH?!

I THOUGHT WE'D AGREED I'D BE THE LEADING ONE TODAY...

WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

HEY-HEY THERE...

I MEAN, TODAY AGAIN? MAN.

ANIMALS ARE MOST DANGER-OUS WHEN THEY'RE CORN-ERED, I SUP-POSE.

AH... HAH...

MMMPH...

H HAAAAAH

HAAAAH

MMMH

MMMPH

MMH

MMH

MMMPH

MMMMAAPH!

.....

AAAAAAAAAAAAH!!

I'LL COME ASAP BY TAXI, IF I HAVE TO.

YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST GIMME A CALL.

.....

TO: RUU-KUN
SUBJECT: HELP!
TEXT
I'M HAVING A PROB

MMH

UHH

AH...

HUMPH...

TOO LOUD..!

MH

MH

もじっ

もじっ…

6

SFX: FIDGETY FIDGETY

AAAAAH

AAH

MMMH

I WANT YOU..

I WANT YOU INSIDE ME...

THA...

THAT IS ENOUGH...

MMMM...

MH...

WAIT A MINUTE..!

.....

WAL..

I'LL JUST HAVE TO COME OUTSIDE.

I...

.....

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO USE SOME EQUIPMENT TO DAY, AREN'T WE?

YOU KNOW.

RE-MEMBER.

...IS REALLY REALLY A BAD DAY FOR THIS...

TODAY ...

ガラガラ

.....

B-BUT ...

EH?

HAAH...

ピトッ

.....

I WANNNA FEEL YOU UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL, ASOU-SAN...

.....

YOU DON'T WANNA BECOME A DADDY, DO YOU?

NO MEANS NO!

LET'S JUST COOL DOWN A LITTLE.

♥

THAT'S RIGHT

.....

9

WHERE DID I PUT THOSE THINGS?

.....

NOW GO PUT YOUR HELMET ON. GO

IN...

INSIDE THE CLOSET...

……!!

キョロキョロ

おおお

……!

……

カチャ

.....

12

AND I WAS STARTING TO FEEL THE FULL BRUNT OF IT.

...I'D JUST HAD A SUDDEN REALIZATION OF JUST HOW BIG A MESS I'D GOTTEN MYSELF INTO.

BUT AS FOR MY RESOLVE TO "HELP HER OUT ALL THE WAY"...

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT SHE WAS THINKING.

AT THIS POINT. AS SHE LOOKED UPON ME.

あれ？……

!?

AGAWA-SAN...

I'M SORRY

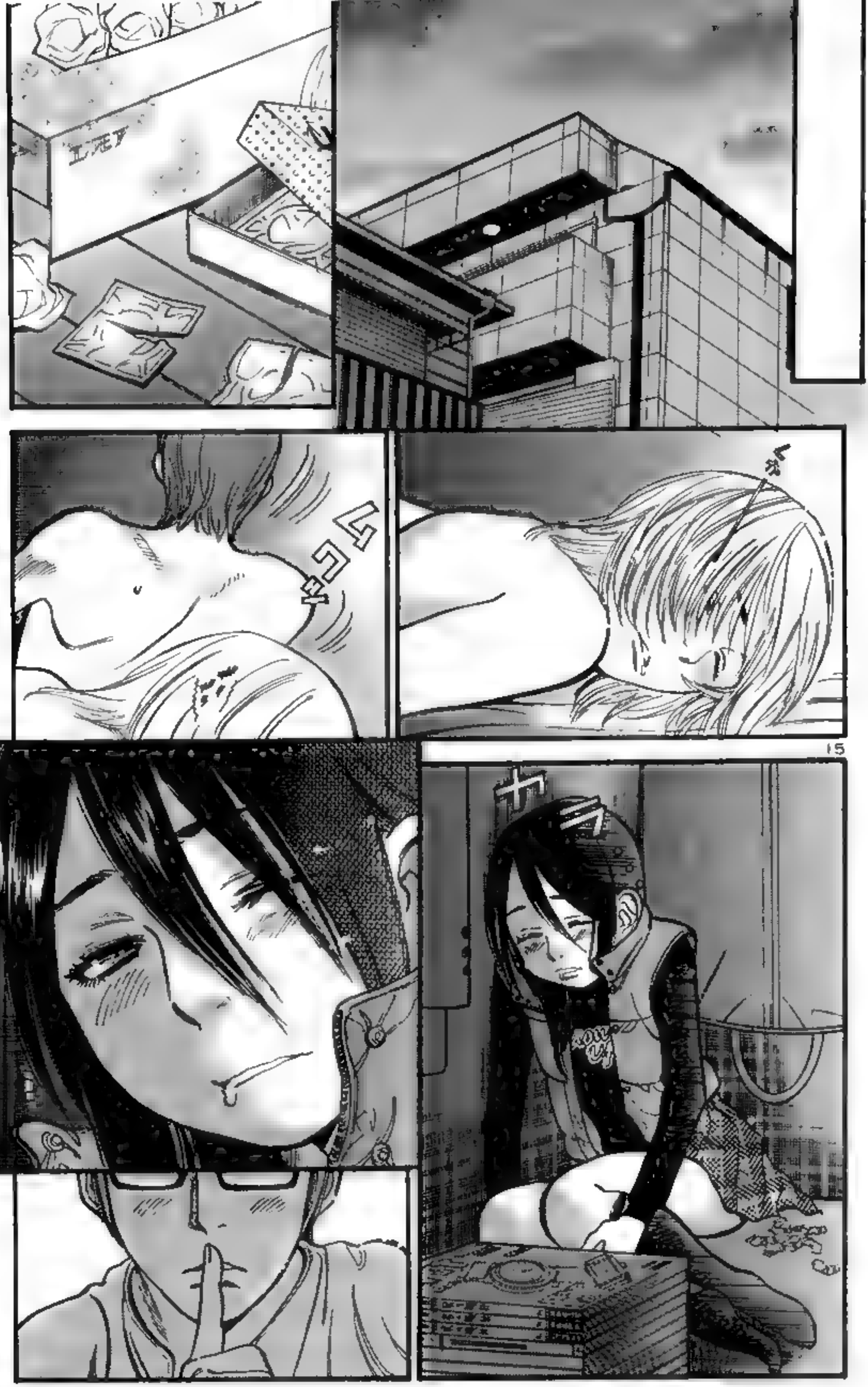
A'RIGHT?

ONCE IT GETS SAFE AGAIN...

AAAAH!

AGAWA-KUN!

AGAWA-KUN!


LIFE
ハァ
ハァ

BUT THIS WAY I CAN CONTACT YOU. LET YOU KNOW WHEN IT'S OKAY FOR US TO MEET AN ALL THAT.

I'LL SPEND THE WHOLE DAY WITH MY GIRL-FRIEND...

THIS... IS MY MAIL ADDRESS.

SORRY.

THAT WAS REALLY NOTHING.

I-I'LL BE FINE!

I HAD NO INTENTION TO PUT YOU THROUGH THIS...

INDEED I AM.

WELL. YEAH. YOU'RE A SOLID 19, DESPITE YOUR LOOKS.

.....

HEY.

HOW 'BOUT WE DO IT RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW?

.....

AS LONG AS YOU'RE OKAY...

FINE.

YEAH, I GUESS SO.

WE- WELL, UM. NO NEED, REALLY

.....

...THAT SAID,

...I AM RELIEVED.

...I'M SURE I'LL NEVER END UP FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU.

NOW AT LEAST ...

SEE YOU TOMO-RROW. FOR THE BEST, I HOPE.

I MAY BE A SAD EXCUSE FOR A "PRINCE" ...

RENA...

...BUT WHEN I SAY I'M GONNA HELP YOU... ...I REALLY MEAN IT...

CHAPTER 23 - LOOKS LIKE FUN

2

...HOW ABOUT DINING TOGETHER?

SAY...

WELL... IT'S NOT SO MUCH ABOUT SEX ACTUALLY...

AH. THANKS.

ARE YOU SURE? YOU'RE ON THE DOUBLE M TEAM TODAY, REMEMBER?

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL STILL BE KICKING COME NIGHTFALL?

YOU MEAN TONIGHT AGAIN?

HM. ALRIGHT. I GOTCHA.

I COULD USE YOUR OPINION ON SOMETHING...

THING IS...

HEY WHY SO SERIOUS?

.....

I'LL BE ON MY WAY, NOW.

AH.

BE SURE TO WIPE OFF THE LIPSTICK BEFORE YOU GET TO WORK.

.....

110

IT'S ASOU-SAN AFTER ALL. IF I EXPLAIN THE SITUATION PROPERLY, SHE SHOULD UNDERSTAND.

To RENA

Subject

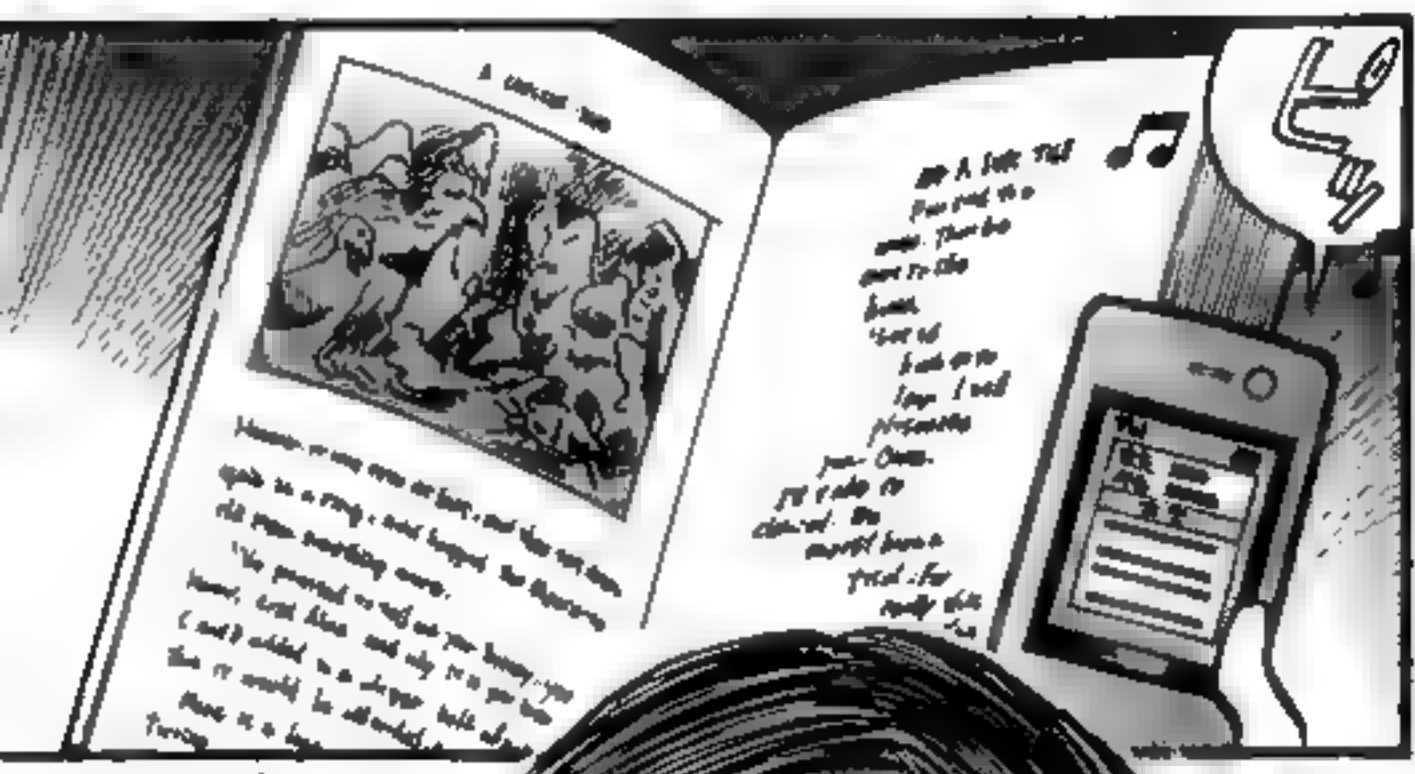
WE'RE HAVING

KEEPING THIS A SECRET FROM ASOU-SAN IS DECIDEDLY WRONG.

To RENA

Subject

WE'RE HAVING DINNER TONIGHT.
THE THREE OF US.
THIS WAY, MY GIRLFRIEND,
YOU AND I CAN TALK THINGS
OVER.
SEND YOU ANOTHER MESSAGE
WHEN I GET OUT OF WORK.



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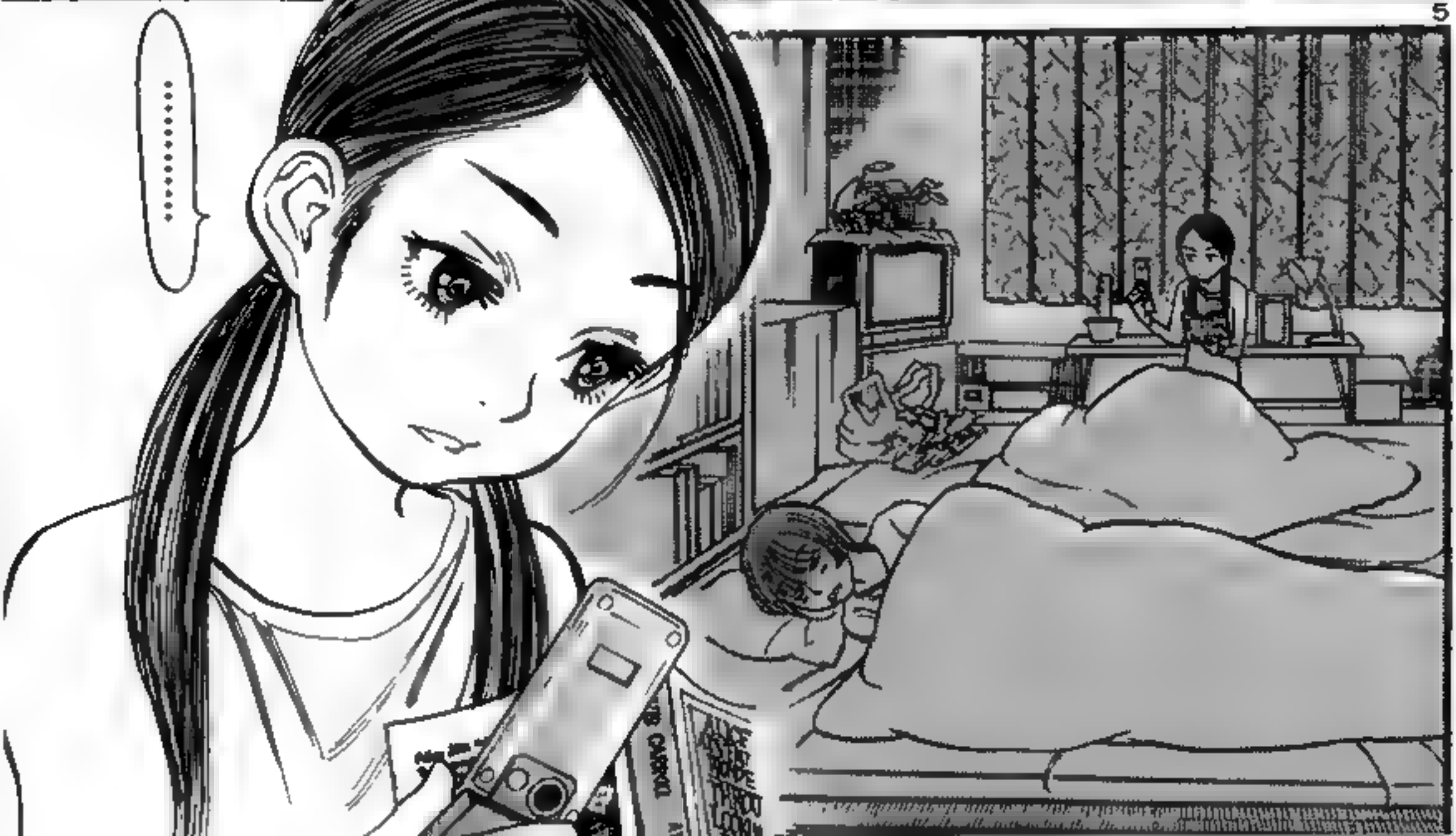
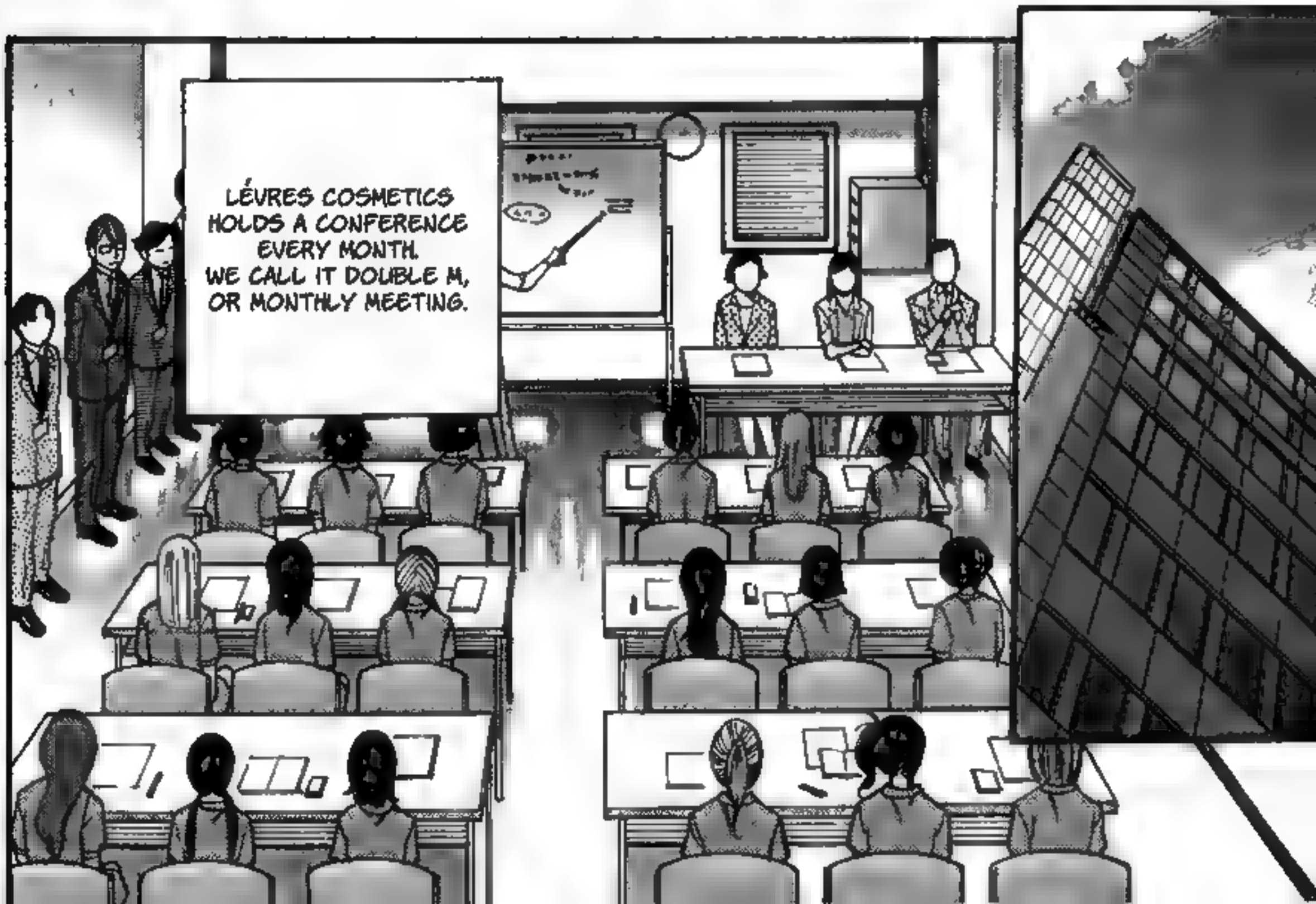


ぎゅ
ぎゅ

6

GOD
NOOOO
!!
ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND
THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS
AAAAH!


LÉVRES COSMETICS
HOLDS A CONFERENCE
EVERY MONTH.
WE CALL IT DOUBLE M,
OR MONTHLY MEETING.

EVERY BUSINESSMAN IS ASSIGNED A CERTAIN NUMBER OF BEALITY ADVISORS (BA), DISPATCHED BETWEEN SEVERAL DIFFERENT SHOPS UNDER HIS SUPERVISION. HE ALSO DOUBLES AS THEIR MANAGER.

...TO PUBLICLY AWARD A PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL TEAM, FOR EXAMPLE.

DURING DOUBLE MS, THE BA ARE ASSEMBLED AT THE COMPANY PROPER...

IT'S BEEN SLATED TO LAST ALL THE WAY THROUGH WINTER, UP TO AND INCLUDING SPRING.

THIS IS HOW THE PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN WILL PLAY OUT.

WE MAY ALSO CONVENE THE TEAM SUPERVISORS TO FILL THEM IN ON OUR BUSINESS OBJECTIVES FOR THE LATEST ARTICLES.

OR TO TRAIN THEM IN THE USE OF OUR NEWEST MAKEUPS.

キュキュ

NOW ON TO NEXT SPRING'S NEW COLOR.

IT'S IN THE LATEST "LA VITA".

Work Wom 麻生 沙

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?

8

……!

LAST MONTH, SHE ALSO HAD HER OWN INTERVIEW IN "JANE"

WORKI WOMI × 麻生レ

YOU SEEM PRETTY ABSORBED BY THE PICTURES, AREN'T YOU? MORE THAN USUAL, I'D SAY

HOT GIRLS DON'T GET A MOMENT'S REST, DO THEY?

SHE'S GOT TO BE.

I BET SHE'S SINGLE.

YEAH, WELL ...

...BOSSY WORK-AHOLICS AREN'T EXACTLY A TURN-ON, YOU KNOW?

CHEAT-ING, YOU MEAN.

UH? THAT WAS FOR REAL?

EH, WHAT ABOUT THE RUMORS OF HER BEING WITH SOMEONE IN THE TOP BRASS?

YA THINK ?

26 YEARS OLD AND STILL SINGLE...

...WHICH IS PROOF ENOUGH THAT SHE'S GOT NO LOVE LIFE WHATSO-EVER.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, BUT AS FAR AS MEN GO WE'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING THAT EVEN REMOTELY LOOKED THE PART...

WOOW!

...SHE'S GONNA DIE AN UNMARRIED OLD BAT AT THIS RATE.

?

WOO-HOO!

.....

HEY... KAGO-CHAN...

YOU'RE REALLY DEAD SET ON SINKING YOUR CLAWS INTO AGAWA-CHAN, AREN'T YOU?

WHAT GOOD IS A MAN WHO CAN'T EVEN GET HIMSELF A GIRL?

BUT HE'S ALREADY GOT A GIRLFRIEND. YOU SAID IT YOURSE...

DON'T BE SILLY

OVER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

I'LL BE EXPECTING REDOUBLED EFFORTS FROM EVERY ONE OF YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THAT WAS ASOU SAYAKO-SAN, FROM THE PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT.

TIME FOR A BREAK, AFTER WHICH...

From ASOU
Subject

SEE YOU AFTER WORK.
SAME PLACE AS USUAL.

THANK YOU, EVERYONE. IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE.

THIS DOUBLE M SESSION IS NOW OVER.

IT'S BEEN A WHOLE MONTH.

LET'S GO OVER SOME-PLACE. HAVE SOME FUN.

NOW I NEED TO CONTACT RENA IMMEDIATELY...

RIGHT

.....

THIS IS THE THIRD DAY SINCE THEN.

SATURDAY NIGHT I PROMISED I'D KISS HER EVERY DAY.

...IN TIME, IT WILL ADD UP. AND I'LL BE ABLE TO GROW BACK INTO ADULTHOOD.

ONE DAY, ONE KISS...

...I'LL JUST DIS-APPEAR COMP LET-ELY.

...AND PROB-ABLY...

BEFORE LONG, I'LL BE A BABY AGAIN...

I'LL TURN INTO AN EVEN SMALLER CHILD.

SHE'LL UNDER-STAND.

I NEED TO SORT THINGS OUT WITH ASOU-SAN BEFORE THAT HAPPENS...

...WELL... I SUPPOSE.

EITHER WAY...

GOTTA KISS HER TODAY, IT'S VITAL.

THINGS MIGHT GO HORRIBLY WRONG FOR HER...

NOW AT LEAST I'M SURE I'LL NEVER END UP FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU

AGAWA-SAN!

UM...

HUH?

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US?

THE GIRLS AND I JUST DECIDED TO GO EAT OUT SOMEWHERE...

YE-YES?

HE'S RIGHT! WE ONLY SEE THEM GIRLS ONCE A MONTH. YOU SHOULD BE JUMPING ON AN OCCASION LIKE THIS.

DON'T GO LONER-MODE ON US, PAL.

I APPRECIATE THE INVITATION. BUT...

A... AHEM...

COME ON, LET'S GO!

ズル

ズル

WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING, MAN. IT'S PART OF OUR JOB.

DON'T TRY TO WEASEL YOUR WAY OUT, YOU SNEAKY BASTARD!

AND WE ALL KNOW WHO'S GONNA END UP PAYING THE BILLS. US.

GOTTA LET ASOU-SAN AND RENA KNOW ABOUT THIS...

YAH.. ALRIGHT. JUST FOR A SPELL...

MORE OF THEM..

.....

PLEASE, MAN I BEG YOU! I KNOW A NICE PLACE TO BE WHEN YOU WANNA END A FUN NIGHT ON A GOOD NOTE!

AND FIRST OF ALL, YOU DON'T EXPECT US TO SO SOCIALIZE WITH SO MANY GIRLS WITHOUT YOU AROUND NOW, DO YOU?

DUH.

I STILL NEED TO MAKE SURE WE GET TO TALK THIS OUT BEFORE THE DAY IS OVER.

HOWEVER...

AS IT TURNS OUT, DINNER MIGHT NOT BE AN OPTION...

I THINK WE'VE LEARNED A LOT.

YOU'VE BEEN GREAT TODAY.

ASOU-SAN! ♥

ON HER WAY BACK HOME. ♥

SORRY I-I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS.

HEY! WHY THE APOL-OGY? NONE OF THIS IS MY FAULT

OH GOO-OOD. ♡

THEY ARE?

YES.

AGAWA-SAN AND HIS FRIENDS ARE TREAT-ING.

GOING TO EAT OUT SOME-PLACE, EVERY-ONE?

IT'S BEEN A PLEA-SURE.

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US?

HEY.

I'LL TRY MY HARDEST TO LOSE THEM ALONG THE WAY, SO GO WAIT FOR ME. SAME PLACE AS USUAL!!

AGAWA SAN, YOU LOOK NERV-OUS.

WHO ASKED FOR YOUR OPINION?!

STU-STUPID!

...FORGET ABOUT IT!!

AS FOR THE CONVERSATION WITH RENA...

...IT'S GONNA GET THAT MUCH HARDER FOR THE TWO OF US TO BAIL OUT!!

IF SHE COMES WITH US

I'M A BIT BUSY TODAY.

...TRUE.

C-COME ON, DUDE, THAT'S MEAN... ASOU-SAN MUST BE EXHAUSTED...

WHUUUT?!

...YOU'RE AFRAID ASOU-SAN MIGHT GET TO AGAWA-CHAN BEFORE YOU DO!

MORE LIKE...

YOU MUST HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND, OR SOMETHING. DON'T LET US STOP YOU.

OF COURSE.

YEAH. SURE.

SHE'S JUST JOKING, AGAWA-SAN! ALRIGHT?!!

COME ON, DON'T TEASE ME LIKE THAT...

HAHA...

HA...

IF YOU DID, I THINK I'D BE TOO EMBARRASSED TO FACE YOU EVER AGAIN, LET ALONE TALK...

GOOD THING YOU'RE NOT TAKING IT SERIOUSLY.

WATCH IT, SOME OF US HERE ARE OLDER THAN YOU, PAL!

HEY!

SHOW 'EM LITTLE GIRLS WHAT A GROWN WOMAN LOOKS LIKE.

BUT IF YA REALLY WANNA JOIN YER WELCOME A'RIGHT?

YET ANOTHER FACE OF HERS THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN...

WHA-WHAT'S IT MEAN EXACTLY?

I SAID QUIT TALKING THIS NON-SENSE!!

THE PIMP STRIKES AGAIN. ♡

I'M SITTING NEXT TO AGAWA-CHAN, THOUGH. I CALL DIBS ON THAT ONE.

JOIN US, ASOU-SAN!

WUUUUUUUUUU...

I'LL JOIN IN FOR A BIT, IF YOU'LL HAVE ME.

OPPORT-UNITIES LIKE THIS ONE DON'T COME UP EVERY DAY.

REALLY

LOOKS LIKE FUN.

RENA...?

WUUUUUUUUUU...

HOW DID I END UP IN THIS MESS?!

HI

From RENA
Subject
I'M NOT FAR AWAY FROM THE COMPANY, SO I'LL HEAD STRAIGHT THERE.

...EVEN RENA'S COMING HERE?!
GOD ...

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!

MY STO-MACH..
MY POOR STO-MACH..

...WITH MANY OPTIONS.

THAT DOESN'T LEAVE ME...

第24話：大っキライなの。

I MEAN, I CAN HARDLY HANDLE IT NOW...

...I HAVE NO IDEA HOW I'M GONNA HANDLE THIS...

I-IF EVEN RENA SHOWS UP IN THOSE CONDITIONS...

MY STO-MACH ---

AGAWA MUNENORI

WE'RE OFF TO AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT NOT FAR FROM THE COMPANY. IT'S CALLED THE BELLISSIMA. WAIT FOR ME OUTSIDE.

CHAPTER 24 -
I HATE CHILDREN

I'LL HAVE THIS. AND THIS.

...THAT ASOU-SAN AND I ARE DATING...

A-ALRIGHT. CAN'T HAVE ANYONE FIND OUT...

...STILL, IT'S A TOUGH CALL NONETHE-LESS...

ASOU-SAN AND I AREN'T IN THE SAME WEIGHT [CLASS] HIERARCHY-WISE, SO SITTING NEXT TO HER WASN'T AN OPTION IN THAT SORT OF GATHERING...

4

IT'S NOT LIKE THEY HAVE ANY WAY TO KNOW !!

I CAN PULL THIS OFF!!

AGAWA-SAN, HOW DID YOU MEET YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?

UH...

AGAWA-SAN, YOU MUST BE LIVING WITH HER, RIGHT?

RIGHT?

YEAAAH, I WANNA KNOW TOO!

EEEH?

EH?

SO YOU DO HAVE A GIRLFRIEND, THEN. THOUGHT SO.

VIDAL SALOON GAVE IT AWAY. ♥

YET

WE AREN'T QUITE THERE YET...

WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT-?

CRIPES. I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THIS IS GOING...

WO-WON'T YOU JUST GET OFF MY BACK-?

THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD FOR A GUY LIKE YOU TO BE DATELESS.

SO YA DO HAVE SUM'ONE.

BITCH PLEASE GO GOTTA CHANGE THE SUBJECT AND FAST...

WHAT DOES IT MATTER ANYWAY -?

THAT'S SOME QUEST-ION.

WHO CONFESSED FIRST?

UH?

DUHHHHHH!

SUCH A FUSS FOR NO-THING.

LET'S HEAR IT!

WOOPS. ASOU-SAN IS STARTING TO GET MAD.

CHEAP-SKATE!

PLEASE, SHARE YOUR LOVE LIFE WITH US AGAWA-SAN. ♥

I WANNA KNOW TOO.

IS SHE GONNA TAKE THE HUMILIATION GAME ALL THE WAY HERE?

.....

HEY, YOU HEAR THAT? THAT WAS AN ORDER FROM ASOU-SAMA!

...WITH THE TIP OF HER TOES INSIDE MY MOUTH.

WHEN I ASKED HER OUT I WAS ON BENDED KNEE...

.....

SPIT IT OUT. ♥

AGAWAAAA? ♥

.....

THAT'S SUB-MISSIVE PLAY, RIGHT THERE. ♥

AAAAAH. THAT'S SO MUCH LIKE YOU!

PFT.

IT GOT ME ALL WHIZZED UP ♥ FOR A SECOND.

SURE. ♥

YOU USED TO BE SUCH A WIMP BEFORE.

BUT YOU'VE GAINED IN AUTHORITY, OF LATE.

WHEN YOU GOT MAD AT GOTOU-SAN AND ME THE OTHER DAY...

...SO?

IS THAT...

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

UH?

REALLY ?

WHIZZED UP...

AHAHA! SOMEONE'S REALLY HAPPY!

YE-YET ANOTHER POKER-FACE FROM ASOU-SAN...

MARRIAGE?

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED MARRIAGE?

YE-YES?

AGAWA-SAAAAN!

BUT_

_IS A DECISION WE TOOK IN COMMON _

LIVING TOGETHER

THAT'D BE... WITH ASOU-SAN.

WELL _

BUT I DOUBT IT'S QUITE THE SAME EITHER...

CAN'T BE TOO DIFFERENT FROM WHEN FELLOW STUDENTS ARE LOVERS, OR EVEN COHABIT

BEING 26. AND ALL

WHAT DOES ASOU-SAN THINK ABOUT THAT?

PROB-ABLY FROM REIKA_

A MESSAGE!

SFX. VVVRRRRRRRR

Hellssima

I GUESS SHE'S ARRIVED SHE MUST BE IN FRONT OF THE RESTAURANT

...THEN, ASOU-SAN AND I JOIN HER AT MY PLACE...

I TELL HER TO WAIT FOR ME THERE...

GOTTA TIME THIS RIGHT

I NEED TO GET OUT SOMEHOW AND GIVE HER THE KEY TO MY APARTMENT.

...AND THE THREE OF US CAN TALK OVER THE SITUATION...

WILL RENA ALWAYS BE AROUND, STICKING TO ME LIKE GLUE? FOREVER?

LET'S SAY I DO END UP MARRYING SOMEONE.

I DIS-AGREE.

AH.

UH-UUUMM...

YOU'RE-YOU'RE RIGHT... I GUESS.

THAT'S LIKE WAAAAY TOO EARLY TO GET MARRIED.

WE'RE STILL WHAT, 23, 24 MAYBE?

11

EH?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

EEEEEEEE~

I'M ONLY 20, BUT I WANT MY WEDDING, AND I WANT IT NOW.

!

I DON'T THINK IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH AGE.

I-I'M NOT SO SURE...

BUT YOU'D THINK CHILDREN WOULD BE PROUD TO HAVE THEIR YOUNG MOMMY SHOW UP ON PARENTS' DAY AND THE LIKE!

THAT SO?

IT'S SCIEN-TIFIC!!

...AND THE CONVERSATION DRAGS ON FOR TOO LONG ON THAT SPECIFIC SUBJECT, IT NEVER ENDS WELL!

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, WHENEVER SEVERAL AGE-CONSCIOUS FEMALES ARE GATHERED...

WHAT KID WOULD WANT ITS MOM TO BE AN OLD LADY WELL PAST HER PRIME, AFTER ALL?!!

...USING ME AS A PRETEXT!!

I MEAN, IT WAS PROBABLY HER INTENTION ALL ALONG TO START SOMETHING WITH ASOU-SAN...

BLOODY HELL, SHE'S CLEARLY TAKING A JAB AT ASOU-SAN!!

KAGO-CHAN...

INDEED, KAGO-CHAN. YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT

.....

I DON'T THINK SHE'S ON TO OUR RELATIONSHIP, THOUGH IT'S PROBABLY SOMETHING ELSE...

MY PARENTS WERE PRETTY OLD, YOU SEE.

SO I KNOW WHAT THOSE KIDS WOULD FEEL LIKE.

I HATE CHILDREN AND I ALWAYS HAVE.

REALLY.

I MEAN IT.

THAT'S WHY I DON'T INTEND TO HAVE ANY CHILDREN AT ALL.

IF A GREAT WOMAN SUCH AS YOURSELF DOESN'T LEAVE ANY OFFSPRING BEHIND, JAPAN IS DOOMED.

I MEAN, IT'S A WASTE, ISN'T IT?

.....

YOU CAN'T BE SERI-OUS.

DUUUUH?!

UH...

HOW DOES IT WORK OUT WITH YOUR GIRL? IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

BY THE WAY...

ITSUKI

HA... HAHA...

OH MY, YOU SOUND LIKE A DIRTY OLD MAN, ASOU-SAN.

KYAHAHA

I'M BETTING YOU'RE WAY GREATER THAN YOUR FACE LETS ON.

♥

.....

EXCUSE ME, GOTTA PICK THIS UP...

THAT'S HARASSMENT RIGHT THERE. I COULD SUE YOU FOR THAT

HE'S GETTING AWAY!

I SAY M. HE'S GOT TO BE.

WHICH SIDE OF THE S&M ARE YOU ON?

UUUGH MY STOMACH HURTS...

PICKING A FIGHT WITH ASOU-SAN WAS NOTHING SHORT OF SUICIDAL...

POOR THING.

.....

BASHFUL

RENA...

HM.

OH WELL... CAN'T REALLY BLAME HER.

UH.. SHE'S LOOKING AT ME LIKE I'M SOME SORT OF FREAK...

MY GIRL-FRIEND AND I ARE HEADING THERE INSTEAD.

GO TO MY PLACE AND WAIT FOR ME THERE.

KEYS?

BUT I'M NOT THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO STICK AROUND YOU FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE, NOW, AM I?

.....

WE CAN DISCUSS HOW THINGS ARE GONNA WORK OUT THEN.

YOU'RE FREE NOT TO LIKE ME.

SFX: STOMACH NOISES.

DO-DON'T GO THE EXTRA MILE FOR ME, YOU DON'T HAVE TO!!

!

TAKE THIS, GO HAVE A BITE AND WAIT FOR ME.

PUB

AGAWA?

DON'T. I'M ALREADY CAUSING YOU ENOUGH TROUBLE AS IT IS.

SORRY ABOUT THAT

I INSIST I'M THE ONE WHO INVITED YOU TO DINNER IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HM?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?

CHAPTER 25 - I MISJUDGED YOU

WOW. HAHAHA.

WHOAAA.

.....

...WE HAVE A MISUNDER-STANDING ON OUR HANDS.

DON'T YOU THINK?

I... I'M AFRAID...

第25話：
見損なった。

GO TO MY PLACE AND WAIT FOR ME THERE.

OKAY?

DON'T WORRY.

WHAT IS IT?

I WENT OUT TO ANSWER A PHONE CALL ABOUT WORK, AND YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT I SAW!!

LISTEN UP, FOLKS!!

AGAWA-SAN IN FRONT OF THE REST-AURANT.

HANDING SOME CASH TO AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLGIRL!

AREN'T YOU CURIOUS ABOUT WHATEVER IT IS HE TOLD HER TO BUY?

HE'S LIKE A PEDO, OR SOMETHING.

HE WAS GIVING MONEY TO A LITTLE GIRL.

SO WHAT'S THE DEAL?

WHAT, THAT'S IT?

UUUUH?

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PUNCHLINE?

WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT IT?

UH?

...AND?

AND THAT I MERELY PICKED IT UP FOR HER? ...HM?

WOULDN'T SOMEONE WITH NORMAL SENSIBILITIES TAKE UP THE FEW SECONDS YOU HAD TO THINK IT OVER? WORK OUT THAT THE GIRL DROPPED HER MONEY?

"" AH

LOOK AT YOU, TRYING TO BE FUNNY AND FAILING.

WHUUUT?!

THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS IN THE BA ABOUT WHETHER YOU WERE PEDO OR GAY

DON'T TRY TO DENY IT, I KNOW.

WUUUUT ?

MIYABE-SAN, ARE YOU A LOLICON ?

UUUUH? IT DIDN'T REALLY LOOK ALL THAT INNOCENT TO ME...

YOU'RE RIGHT TRUTH IS, I BRIBE LITTLE GIRLS INTO UNSPEAKABLE...

HEY, I'M NOT LIKE YOU, PAL. LOLICON IS NOT MY THING.

UUUUUH! AAAAGH!

MY HUNTING GROUND DOESN'T GO PAST HIGH SCHOOL AT THE YOUNGEST !!

WAI-WAI WAIT A MINUTE!

IT'S PRETTY MUCH TRANSPARENT, PAL. YOU SIR, ARE A LOLICON.

NOW TO WRAP THINGS UP HERE ASAP, SO ASOU-SAN AND I CAN GO TO MY PLACE...

THERE. THE RENA BIT HAS MORE OR LESS BEEN DEALT WITH.

AAAH! THAT JUST SCREAMS LOLICON!

CREEPY!

UH?

AGAWA-SAN, YOU'RE NOT A LOLICON, ARE YOU?

I'VE BEEN WONDER-ING.

COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE THAT YOU NEVER LOOKED AT ME AT ALL. ♥

...SHE JUST GOT SNUBBED BY ASOU-SAN. TALK ABOUT A FAST RECOVERY...

YOU LIKE THEM OLDER, THEN.

OH WELL, NOT LIKE THERE'S ANY ILL WILL BETWEEN THEM, AFTER ALL...

WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

THAT'S THE SORT OF THING YOU GIRLS TALK ABOUT?

WE'VE BEEN DISCUSSING WHETHER YOU LIKED YOUR WOMEN OLDER, OR CONVERSELY MUCH YOUNGER.

ｷﾛﾘ

CUTE. HE SAID SHE'S CUTE.

THAT WAS BOLD.

I DON'T LOOK LIKE IT, BUT I'M STRUGGLING JUST TO KEEP MY WITS ABOUT ME WHEN YOU'RE AROUND.

YOU'RE WRONG.

YOU'RE JUST THAT CUTE.

SFX: AAAAAH/AAAAAAAH

WHAT? ASOU-SAN... SHE'S ANGRY ?

EXCUSE ME. BATHROOM.

SHE'S NOT ANGRY

THAT'S JUST MY IMAGIN-ATION.

BUT WOULD ASOU-SAN REALLY GET MAD OVER SUCH A SMALL THING?

...AND I MAY HAVE CRACKED A FEW JOKES OUT OF RELIEF.

SU-SURE, HANDING THE KEY TO RENA TOOK A HUGE LOAD OFF MY BACK...

ｷﾛﾘ

ASOU-
SAN...

6

I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU... TO BE WAITING FOR ME HERE...

.....

YOU WANTED TO TALK?

LET'S HEAR IT.

CAN'T TALK RIGHT NOW. WOULD BE A HASSLE TO INTRODUCE RENA AND HER ILLNESS IN THOSE CONDITIONS...

IT CAN WAIT UNTIL WE GET BACK HOME...

AH... WELL...

THIS MORNING, YOU TOLD ME YOU HAD SOMETHING TO SAY, DID YOU NOT?

EH?

I'M A BIT TIPSY AT THE MOMENT, I'M AFRAID.

IF YOU CAN'T TALK NOW, LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT FOR TODAY.

WHY DON'T WE GO TO MY PLACE AGAIN, BY THE...

DID YOU DO SOMETHING I SHOULD FEEL ANGRY ABOUT?

Staff Only

A-AREN'T YOU MAD AT ME?

.....

.....

...

.....

.....

YOU...

YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND...

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGELY FOR A FEW DAYS, NOW. I HAD A FEELING A GIRL WAS INVOLVED...

ANO-THER GIRL...

THERE'S ANOTHER GIRL. AND THE TRICKS YOU'RE USING TO HIDE HER ARE JUST CHEAP

I MIS-JUDGED YOU.

THE GIRL YOU JUST MET OUTSIDE, THAT'S WHO I MEAN.

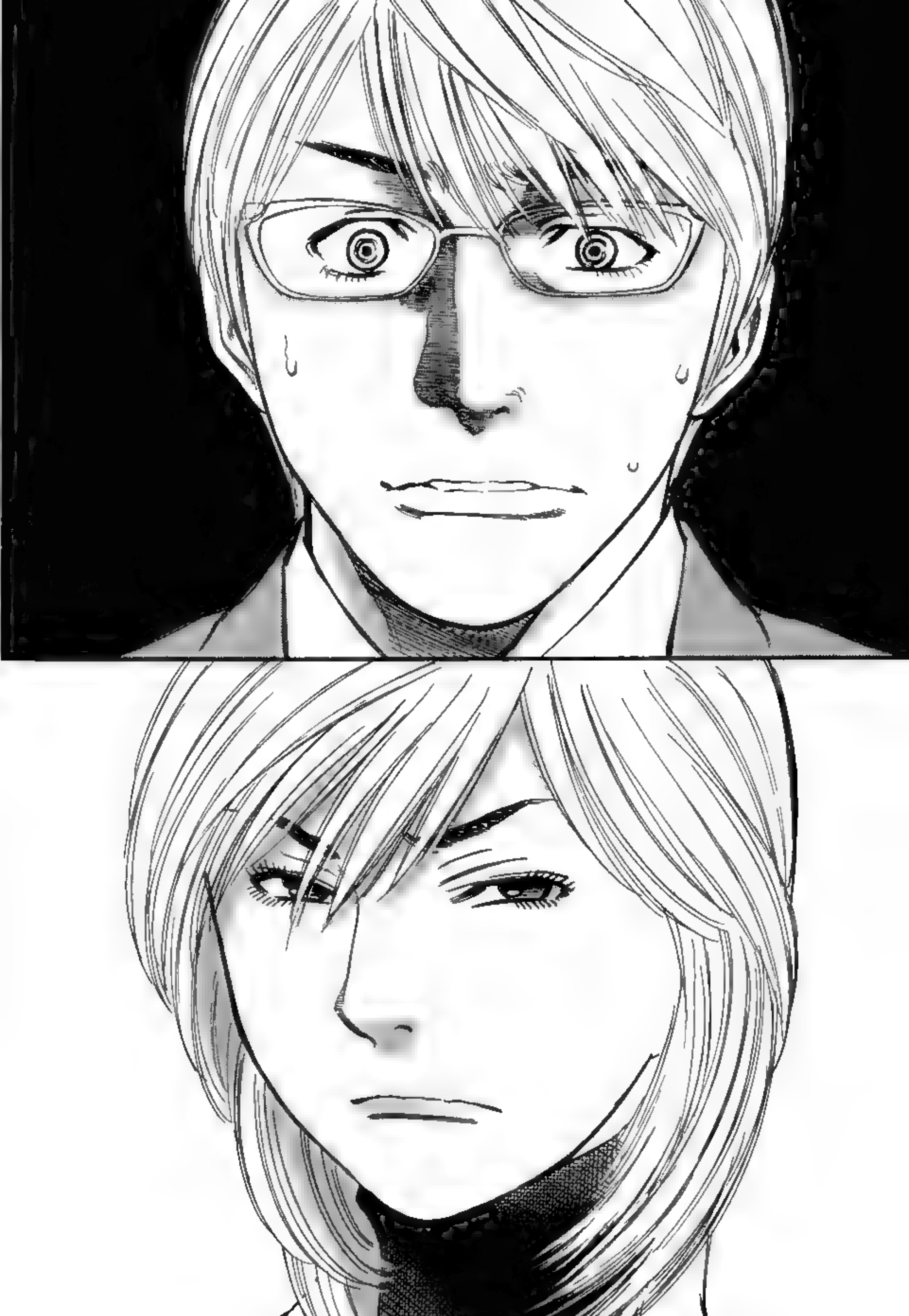
UH?

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT HER.

I WAS JUST JOKING WITH KAGO-CHAN. I MEAN, THAT WAS JUST SOME PLAYFUL BANTER, NOTHING ELSE.

THE RUNAWAY GIRL. THE ONE WHO PROMPTED YOU INTO DATING ME.

THAT'S THE ONE.



SEE YOU TOMORROW AT WORK. DON'T BE LATE.

GREAT PARTY, THAT WAS.

ASOU-SAN WENT HOME RIGHT AFTER THAT...

PHEW...

I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT THIS ALREADY, BUT SHE DIDN'T.

YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT MEETING SOME RUNAWAY GIRL, THE OTHER NIGHT. WHAT HAPPENED ..?

HER LEARNING ABOUT RENA COULDN'T HAVE TURNED OUT ANY WORSE...

SHE'D HAD HER MISGIVINGS ABOUT RENA SINCE THE BEGINNING...

...AND FROM THERE, YOU JUST FELT LIKE SOCIAL-IZING.

...SOMETHING HAPPENED WITH THAT GIRL THAT TRANSLATED INTO A LACK OF SLEEP...

OBVIOUSLY ...

SHE GAVE ME THE COURAGE I NEEDED TO CONFESS TO ASOU-SAN!..

TRUE ENOUGH, MEETING RENA DID PUSH ME TO ACT...

IT'S NOT LIKE I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER TO REPLACE RENA OR ANYTHING AND YET...

BUT ASOU-SAN DOESN'T UNDER-STAND THAT.

OF COURSE I WON'T SHUT YOU OUT IF YOU DO COME TO MINE.

I WON'T GO ANYWHERE NEAR YOUR PLACE TONIGHT

AND YOU CAN HAVE THE BED.

BUT NO SLEEPING TOGETHER THIS TIME.

I'LL TAKE THE SOFA.

...AFTER WHAT SHE'D SAID TO ME?

HOW COULD I FOLLOW HER HOME...

ブォォォ

THAT PRETTY MUCH ENDED THE CONVERSATION

GUESS IT'S A BIT TOO EARLY FOR COHABITATION...

RENA?!

MY ROOM. I CAN'T SEE ANY LIGHTS AT ALL!

SFX: SILENCE.

SFX: DING DONG.

DON'T TELL ME SHE HASN'T MADE IT HERE YET?!

ガチャ

I DON'T HAVE MY KEYS. HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN THOSE CONDIT-IONS?

COME ON!

……

ふぅ…

AGAWA-SAN…?

……

14

BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED YESTER-DAY.

YOU DIDN'T EVEN SWITCH ON THE LIGHTS —

IF YOU WERE THERE WHY DIDN'T YOU OPEN ANY SOONER?! I THOUGHT I WAS LOCKED OUTSIDE!

SORRY.

SO I TOOK MY PRECAUTIONS.

IF THE LIGHTS WERE ON WHILE YOU WEREN'T THERE, IT WOULD SPELL BIG TROUBLE.

SHE SPENT ALL THIS TIME IN THE DARK, JUST WAITING FOR ME_

I JUST CURLED UP ON THIS SOFA, AND I TOOK A LITTLE NAP

IT'S FINE.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN BORED SILLY

.....

I WOULD NOT HAVE MINDED YOU USING THE BED.

YOU'RE NOT A DOG, YOU KNOW.

.....

OKAY, NEVER MIND.

SMALL WONDER SHE DIDN'T WANT TO USE IT...

THAT WAS A PRETTY SICK THING TO SAY, CONSIDERING WHAT HAPPENED ON THAT BED YESTERDAY!

ER- UM-

WHERE'S YOUR GIRL-FRIEND..?

EH?

COME OVER HERE, COME ON.

SHE'S NOT COMING TODAY.

I BARELY AVOIDED SAYING SHE WAS "LONGING" FOR THAT KISS.

YOU KNOW.

AREN'T WE KISS-ING?

.....

YET HERE I AM, TORMENTING A GIRL WHO DESPERATELY NEEDS MY HELP OUT OF SPITE...

.....

I HAD A ROW WITH MY LOVER BECAUSE OF RENA, SURE. BUT GOING BERSERK ON HER BECAUSE OF IT IS A BIT TOO MUCH.

.....

.....

HOW MUCH OF A CHILD DOES THAT MAKE ME?

WHEN YOU OPENED THAT CLOSET YESTER-DAY...

.....

NO- NOT EXAC-TLY...

DID SOMETHING... HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR GIRL-FRIEND? BY MY FAULT?

JUST HOW MUCH OF A BURDEN I MUST BE TO YOU.

...IT OCCU-RRED TO ME.

...WHEN I SAW YOUR FACE...

...IN EX-CHANGE, YOU CAN TELL ME EVERY-THING.

BUT SINCE I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DEPEND ON YOU.

IF I CAN HELP YOU, I WILL!!

JUST GET YOUR ASS OVER HERE, MOVE IT!!

SHUT THE HELL UP!

.....

.....

GO AHEAD, PLE-ASE.

.....

DAMN IT..

ASOU-SAN SAID SOME-THING ABOUT ME BEING A HUGE MASO-CHIST..

I REALIZED I MUST HAVE SEEMED PRETTY SADISTIC AS FAR AS RENA WAS CONCERNED.

...BUT AS I WAS PRACTICALLY FORCING THAT SECOND KISS UPON HER...

第26話：話ができるかも…

RE-RENA...

...YOU'RE HURTING ME!!

OW!

!!

CHAPTER 26 -
I MIGHT BE ABLE TO TALK TO HER...

第26話：話ができるかも…

……!!

TODAY, THIS IS THE 4TH TIME WE'VE KISSED...

UNGH_

...IT'S BECOME A DAILY ROUTINE. I GET BACK HOME FROM WORK AND REIJA AND I KISS THERE.

EVER SINCE THE SECOND KISS,

I'M SORRY —

I'M NOT SURE IF WHAT WE'RE DOING REALLY QUALIFIES AS KISSING

I'VE GOT A CRAMP IN THE NECK_

_NOW I'M ONE DAY CLOSER TO ADULTHOOD.

BUT —

THE GOOD THING IS

THANK YOU...

.....

.....

HERE.

DON'T BE SO AFRAID.

.....

IF EVERY DAY IS GONNA BE THAT INTENSE, DOING IT ANY TIME, ANYWHERE IS DECIDEDLY NOT AN OPTION...

UH?

SEE YOU TOMORROW.

.....

SHOULD WE GET BACK AT DIFFERENT MOMENTS LIKE IT HAPPENED THE LAST TIME, YOU CAN USE IT TO GET IN.

THIS ROOM IS PROBABLY THE SAFEST PLACE FOR US TO GO AT IT

!!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THA...

I'LL CONTACT YOU DAILY, TO LET YOU KNOW WHEN I GET BACK.

6

...SINCE I TOOK IT UPON MYSELF TO KISS HER DAILY...

THIS IS THE THIRD DAY...

WELL NO. WE'RE WAY CLOSER TO THE 4TH DAY, MORE LIKE...

THREE DAYS...

...SINCE ASOU-SAN GOT MAD AT ME.

ON THE CONTR-ARY...

I HAVEN'T BEEN AT HER PLACE EVEN ONCE SINCE THEN.

SHIM-ATANI-BUCH-OU!

!

...WE HAVEN'T EVEN EXCHANGED A SINGLE WORD.

I STARTED TO FREAK OUT A BIT...

BUT, ON THE SECOND DAY, AS MY THIRD COURTESY MESSAGE GOT IGNORED...

NO NEW MESSAGES

ON THE FIRST DAY I DIDN'T CONTACT HER AT ALL, THINKING I SHOULD LET THINGS COOL DOWN A BIT

I UNDER-STAND.

YES.

YES.

...IT'S MADE CHANGING CLOTHES THAT MUCH MORE COMPLICATED FOR ME.

AND SINCE MOST OF MY SPARE CLOTHING IS STILL AT HER PLACE...

DAMN YOU, UMEDZU. ALWAYS DUMPING THE CRAPPY JOB ON SOMEONE ELSE.

WHAT? TAKE A CUSTOMER COMPLAINT FORM ALL THE WAY TO ANOTHER DEPART-MENT..?

TAKE THIS TO THE PUBL-ICITY DEPART-MENT_

HEY, AGA-WA

YES?

CUST-OMER COMP-LAINT?

BUT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO TALK TO ASOU-SAN, IF ONLY FOR A MINUTE...

THAT CUST-OMER AGAIN ?

THIS IS GETTING OUTRAGE-OUS.

I WAI-CHAAAN!

AH. I SEE.

SINCE IT HAS TO DO WITH THE CAPTIONS FOR OUR LATEST ARTICLE'S PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN, WE WEREN'T SO SURE THE SALES DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE THE ONES HANDLING IT...

.....

ﾅｰ

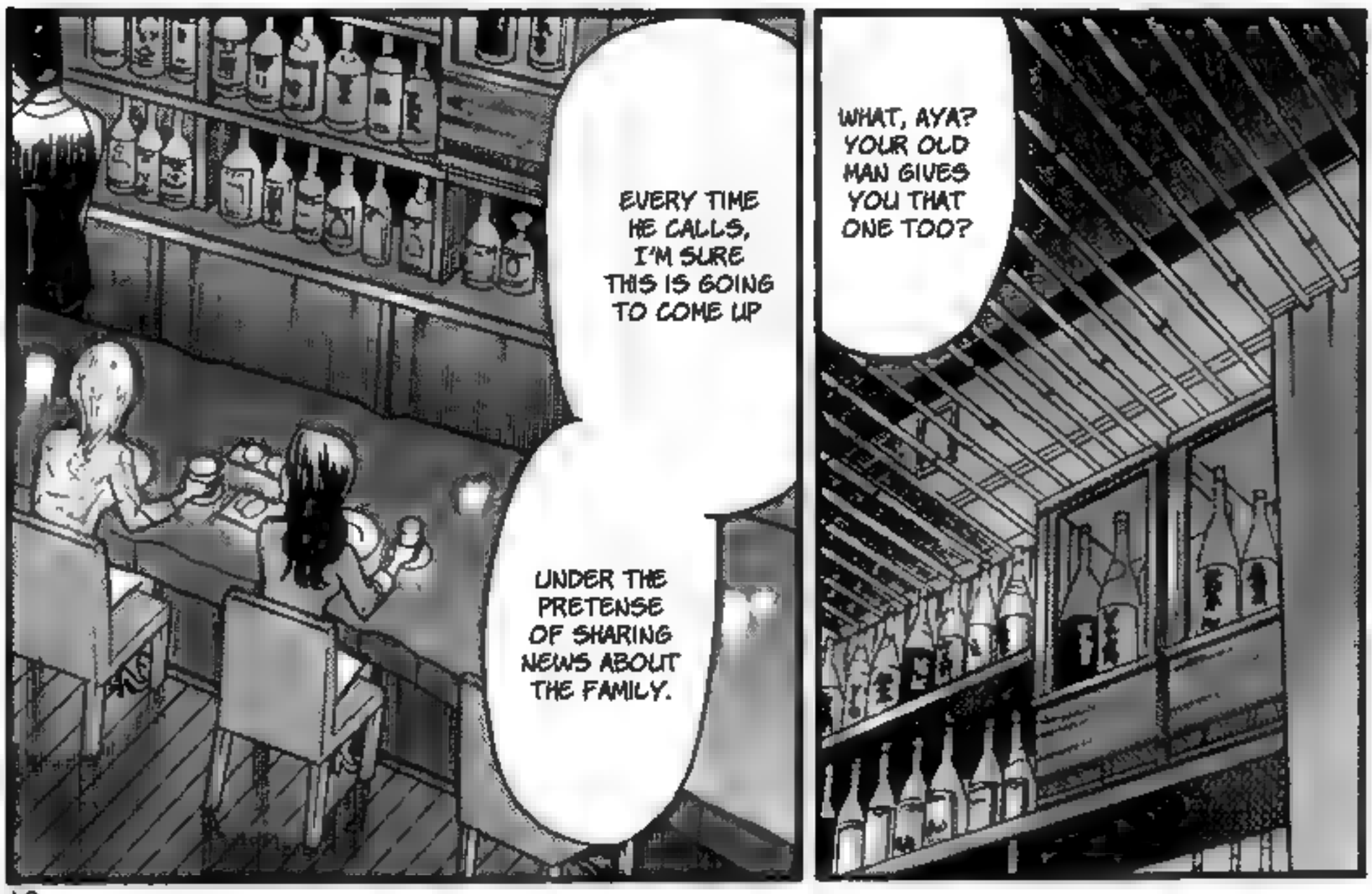
GOOD LUCK.

SU-SURE THING.

ALRIGHT, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

THANKS.

.....


EVERY TIME HE CALLS, I'M SURE THIS IS GOING TO COME UP
UNDER THE PRETENSE OF SHARING NEWS ABOUT THE FAMILY.
WHAT, AYA? YOUR OLD MAN GIVES YOU THAT ONE TOO?

10
HAVING CHILDREN LATE ONLY SPELLS TROUBLE, BASICALLY
FOR EXAMPLE, MY UNCLE IS ALREADY IN HIS SIXTIES BUT HIS SON IS STILL PREPARING HIS UNIVERSITY EXAM, WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS THAT ENTAILS.

CAN'T SAY I KNOW FOR A FACT WHAT YOUR MOTHER REALLY HAS IN MIND.

WELL, THAT'S WHAT I GATHERED FROM OUR CONVERSATION.

YOU THINK?

...IS PESTERING HER DAUGHTER ABOUT GETTING MARRIED AND GIVING HER GRANDCHILDREN. ♥

IN OTHER WORDS, MOMMY SAYAKO ...

YOUR COMPANY IS PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF MAKING SUCH FEMALE-FRIENDLY ARRANGEMENTS AS GIVING YOU MATERNITY LEAVE AND SCHEDULING THE PAYMENT OF YOUR WAGES IN AN ACCOMMODATING WAY

GET A HUSBAND FAST, HAVE CHILDREN AND GET RIGHT BACK TO WORK.

SOUNDS GOOD, THOUGH, DON'T YOU THINK?

...CHILDREN. NEXT TO MY JOB, THOSE ARE NOTHING.

MARRIAGE ...

ROMANCE ...

MY WORK IS MY LOVE!

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT

AND WHILE I'M RESTING, THE REST OF THOSE WHO ABANDONED THE IDEA OF BEING NORMAL MEN AND WOMEN GET TO GO GOD KNOWS HOW FAR AHEAD OF ME.

YOU KNOW. THE YOUNG BOY... ♥

BUT SHOULDN'T YOU SAVE THAT SORT OF TALK FOR YOUR BOYFRIEND?

THE SAME, PLEASE!

I'M JUST HAPPY YOU INVITED ME. IT'S BEEN MONTHS SINCE THE LAST TIME THAT HAPPENED.

REMINDS ME OF THE LAST TIME YOU HAD A FALLING OUT WITH A GUY. KINDA DEPRESSING, THAT WAS...

MMMH. OH WELL. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT

WHO ELSE WOULD UNDERSTAND ME IF NOT ANOTHER FEMALE WHO, JUST LIKE ME, LIVES FOR HER JOB?

INTEN-DED?

...WE INTENDED TO.

YOU LIVING TOGETHER YET?

HOW'S THE CURRENT ONE?

.....

.....

HE'S NOT COMING BACK.

WE HAD A LITTLE ROW 4 DAYS AGO.

BWAAHAH HAH HAH!!

NAAAH. SORRY ABOUT THAT

MUST SAY, THOUGH ...

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

THE BOY'S GOING OUT WITH YOU, BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR HIM!!

HE CHEAT-ED!!

...COMING FROM YOU, GETTING INTO A FIGHT OVER AN INFIDELITY IS KINDA CUTE.

SFX: HAHAHAHAHA

...YOU MUST HAVE HAD IT BAD FOR HIM. ♥

TO GET THAT RILED UP...

13

THERE WASN'T EVEN A FIGHT TO BEGIN WITH!

IT'S NOT ABOUT CHEATING!

ABSO-LUTELY NOT!

I-I'M JUST MAD AT HIM FOR BEING SO INCOMPETENT AT HIDING IT

HE GETS THE HOTS FOR ANOTHER GIRL, SO WHAT?

I DON'T MIND THE CHEAT-ING.

.....

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MENTIONED A FIGHT.

I DIDN'T!

IF YOU KEEP THROWING HIM OUT EVERY TIME THERE'S A PROBLEM, HOW IS HE SUPPOSED TO SHELTER HIMSELF FROM THE RAIN?!

YOU'VE AGREED TO LIVE TOGETHER, RIGHT?

I DIDN'T KICK HIM OUT...

IS THAT WHAT YOU TOLD HIM WHEN YOU KICKED HIM OUT?

MMMH.

GOOD THING HE DIDN'T, IN SUCH CONDITIONS HE'D PROBABLY FREAK ME OUT OTHER-WISE.

.....

I TOLD HIM HE COULD COME HOME. HE'S THE ONE WHO CHOSE NOT TO.

I'M FUN INCARNATE...

SURE. GO AHEAD.

MAKE IT FUNNY IF POSSIBLE.

I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY TOO, BY THE WAY. IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SUBJECT AT HAND, THOUGH.

OH WELL.

WELL, SORRY ...

WE PROMISED EACH OTHER WE WOULD LIVE FOR WORK...

...BUT I'M HAVING A CHILD.

15

I'M GET-TING MAR-RIED ...

...AND I'M GONNA QUIT MY JOB.

YOUR COMPANY IS RATHER KIND TO WOMEN. MINE, NOT SO MUCH.

I'M KID-DING.

YEP.

YOU ARE KID-DING, RIGHT ..?

YOU..

.....

YOUR FACE! YOU SHOULD SEE YOUR FACE!

AHAHAHAH!

THAT WAS PRICELESS, SAYAKO! JUST PRICE-LESS!

.....

UH?

YOU LOOKED LIKE A LITTLE GIRL. IT'S SO ADORABLE, I'M THRILLED!

YOUR EXTRA LAYERS OF ARMOR ARE PEELING OFF.

DID YOU FEEL ABANDONED MAYBE?!

SURPRISED ?!

YO-YOU GOT ME AGAIN..!

LOOK AT ME!!

OPEN UP TO HIM A LITTLE?

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THAT ARMOR OFF YOURSELF?

HUH?

WELL, HERE'S A TOP-GRADE, CHALLENGING TRICK YOU CAN TRY WITH YOUR BOY.

YOU SADIST!

I DOUBT THAT'S THE SORT OF THING A CAST-IRON WOMAN LIKE YOURSELF HAS DONE VERY OFTEN IN HER LIFE.

HE MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE SOMETHING, FOR YOU TO LEAVE YOUR BEST PAL SINCE COLLEGE ALL ALONE FOR AN ENTIRE WEEKEND.

.....

FOOD HAS BEEN TASTING GREAT, LATELY

.....

MY APPETITE HAS REVERTED TO NORMAL PROPORTIONS, TOO. MUST BE THE EFFECT OF CS ENZYME.

Ouu

THAT'S THE SAME OUTFIT AS A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO...

...IS NOTHING IF NOT PURE BLISS...

♥

BEING ABLE TO ENJOY THE TASTE OF WHAT I'M EATING ...

THREE MEALS A DAY

SO LOGICALLY, SHE'S DOWN TO JUGGLING WITH A LIMITED WARDROBE...

HER APPEARANCE BARS HER FROM FINDING A JOB, SO SHE ONLY HAS THE ALLOWANCE HER PARENTS SEND HER FOR COLLEGE TO WORK WITH..

DON'T YOU AGREE?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...IT'S GOTTEN A LITTLE BIGGER, HASN'T IT?

LOOK AT MY CHEST...

AH, RIGHT

COME ON, IT'S GETTING LATE.

HOW'D I KNOW?

.....

WE NEED TO TALK... CAN YOU SPARE A MOMENT?

GBAM

MH ~

MMH ~

VRRRRR

VRRRRR

ASOU

VRRRRR

20

MH...
MH...

TODAY'S
THE FIFTH DAY
I KISS RENA.

第27話：
なんでこんなに…

SEE YOU
TOMORROW.

THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH.

GOOD
NIGHT

第27話：
なんでこんなに…

CHAPTER 28 -
WHAT THE DEVIL...

I DIDN'T NOTICE...

A MESSAGE FROM ASOU-SAN.

SHOOT.

SHE WANTS TO TALK ..?

From ASOU

Subject

WE NEED TO TALK... CAN YOU SPARE A MOMENT?

TALK?

ASOU-SAN MUST BE SLEEPING ALREADY

I CAN'T POSSIBLY CALL NOW. NOT THIS LATE AT NIGHT

カチ カチ

02:14

From 麻生

Subject

To ASOU
Subject AHEM...

I DIDN'T NOTICE YOUR MESSAGE RIGHT AWAY.
I CAN COME OVER IF YOU LIKE.
RIGHT NOW IF NEED BE.

6 : 50 AM
ASOU'S BEDROOM.

MH... MNH ...

AH ...

MESSAGE ..

: AGAWA
: AGAWA
: AGAWA
: AGAWA
: AGAWA

.....

WHAT IS IT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?

I DIDN'T NOTICE YOUR MESSAGE RIGHT AWAY. I CAN COME OVER IF YOU LIKE. RIGHT NOW IF NEED BE.

MESSAGE ME WHEN YOU GET THIS. ANY TIME, I DON'T MIND.

ARE YOU ALREADY SLEEPING?

WHA- WHAT THE..! HE'S DRAWING ALL THE WRONG CONCLUSIONS ON HIS OWN, OUT OF FREAKING NOWHERE!

WHATEVER YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT, IT'S NOT A GOOD THING, IS IT?

.....

AAAH, DAMN IT!

Re:

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST COME OVER HERE?!! STUPID!!

INSTEAD OF PRATTLING ALL NIGHT...

.....

Z Z Z

IF ONLY YOU DID. I WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED YOUR APOLOGY_

カタカタ

コトン

カタカタ

8 : 10 AM
COMMUTER TRAIN

6

...IT MIGHT HAVE ONLY MADE HER ANGRIER, ADDING FUEL TO THE FIRE IN THE PROCESS. AND FROM THERE, IT WOULD BE OVER. FOR GOOD —

カタカタ

IF I'D CASUALLY WALTZED IN LAST NIGHT...

NO NEW MESSAGES

GUESS THAT TALK, WHATEVER IT WAS, CAN'T HAVE BEEN A CONST-RUCTIVE ONE...

STILL NO NEWS FROM HER.

カタカタ

8 : 50 AM
LÈVRES COSMETICS

ｶﾁｬｯ…

8

……

AH!

CONGRATS ON LAST TIME! THAT WAS SOME PRETTY NEAT JOB. AND WELL, THE NIGHT WAS FUN TOO!!

G-GOOD MORNING.

AH! GOOD MORNING, ASOU-SAN!

SORRY, LADIES.

G-GO AHEAD. THE ELEV-ATOR'S WAITING!

WOOPS!!

O-OUT ON BUSI-NESS, I SUPP-OSE?

8

OFF WE GOOOO!

WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY, NOW!

VERY WELL, I'LL CHECK OUT THIS COLOR PROOF BACK AT MY COMPANY.

11 : 20 AM
LÈVRES COMPANY,
MEETING ROOM

UH, ASOU-SAN.

SEE YOU THEN...

NEXT APPOINTMENT ON WED-NESDAY, THEN. SAME HOUR NEXT WEEK.

WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME?

SPEAKING OF NEXT WEEK. ON THE WEEK AFTER THAT, MY COMPANY WILL BE THERE AT CHANEL AOYAMA'S OPENING PARTY.

OH MY, THAT'S GORGE-OUS. ♥

ALLOW ME TO EXTEND YOU AN INVITATION.

CHRIS MILTON AND SHIRAKI MITOMI WILL BE THERE AS GUESTS, SO AN AWFUL LOT OF PEOPLE WANT IN. A REAL HASSLE, AS YOU CAN IMAGINE.

WORTHLESS OLD GUY ♡

SHIMA-TANI-BUCH-OU...

DID I HEAR THAT RIGHT ..?

SHIMATANI I'D LIKE TO LET HIM IN ON THE OFFER.

MAY I ASK YOU TO SEND ONE TO SOMEONE ELSE IN MY COMPANY, THEN?

THWARTED AGAIN...

10

THE QUEUES THERE HAVE BEEN ENDLESS THESE DAYS, HAVEN'T THEY?

HOW ABOUT LUNCH AT THE CAFE MARET?

12 : 14
LÈVRES COMPANY

HAVING LUNCH OUTSIDE... I GUESS.

SALES DEPARTMENT

山岡 川林化→松下

AGAWA RETURN TO OFFICE 5:30

木内 今戸薬局

行動予定表

AH. I SEE.

I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN HANGING OUT WITH THE BA STAFF MEMBERS AFTER THE DOUBLE M!!

APP ARENTLY, YES.

UH?

EVERY-ONE FROM SALES IS OUT ?

HOW ABOUT LUNCH?

AH. ASOU-SAN.

SURE. NEXT TIME AROUND THEN.

LIVENED THINGS UP, THAT DID. GOD I WISH I WAS THERE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

I-I SUPP-OSE SO.

MY BAD.

TSK

SORRY.

I ALREADY HAVE AN APPOINT-MENT ELSE-WHERE.

12 : 30
PUBLICITY

NO NEW MESSAGES

3 : 40 PM
NANBU DEPARTMENT STORE
COSMETICS FLOOR

...DUH.

To ASOU
Subject

FALLS TO ME TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP, I SUPP-OSE...

NO MESSAGE AT ALL...

WUUUT?!

KAGO-CHAN AND GOTOU-SAN ARE IN THE WAITING ROOM AGAIN...

AGAWA-SAN, EXCUSE ME...

YES?

BUT WHAT KIND OF MESSAGE DO I SEND AN ANGRY ASOU-SAN...

5 : 22 PM
SAME PLACE

5 : 20 PM
PUBLICITY

AHEM. UH..

HUH?

5 : 27 PM

5: 24 PM

SUCH REQUESTS ARE BEST MADE IN PERSON.

I'LL GO ONCE I AM DONE HERE.

YOU DON'T NEED TO ASK ME EVERY SINGLE TIME!

YOU'VE DONE IT BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?

EEEERRM. I NEED THE MARKETING DATA... SHOULD I MAIL A REQUEST TO THE SALES DEPARTMENT?

WAIT A MINUTE!

WELL, NO.

YE- YES MA'AM.

5 : 30 PM

山岡

AGAWA

RETURN TO OFFICE 5:30 6:30

木内

今戸薬局

YE-YES MA'AM!!

I NEED THIS DATA ASAP! WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO COMPILE IT AND MAIL IT TO THE PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT?!

山岡

木内

WHAT IS YOUR BUSINESS HERE?

UH! ASOU-SAN!

MOST OF THE TIME, IT'S NOT QUITE THAT BAD.

ASOU-SAN IS CRANKIER THAN USUAL.

5 : 50
PUBLICITY

..THE ADVANTAGE SHOULD BE MINE!!

AGAWA IS THE ONE WHO CONFESSED HIS LOVE TO ME...

WHY THE DEVIL DO I HAVE TO BE SO UPSET?!

THAT'S WHY.

IT'S MY FIRST PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A MAN IN A LONG TIME.

..I JUST CAN'T SETTLE DOWN

DAMN IT ..

I'M THE ONE WITH A POWER OF LIFE AND DEATH OVER OUR RELATIONSHIP!!

PLEASURE WORKING WITH YOU!

カタカタカタ

……

カタカタカタ

!

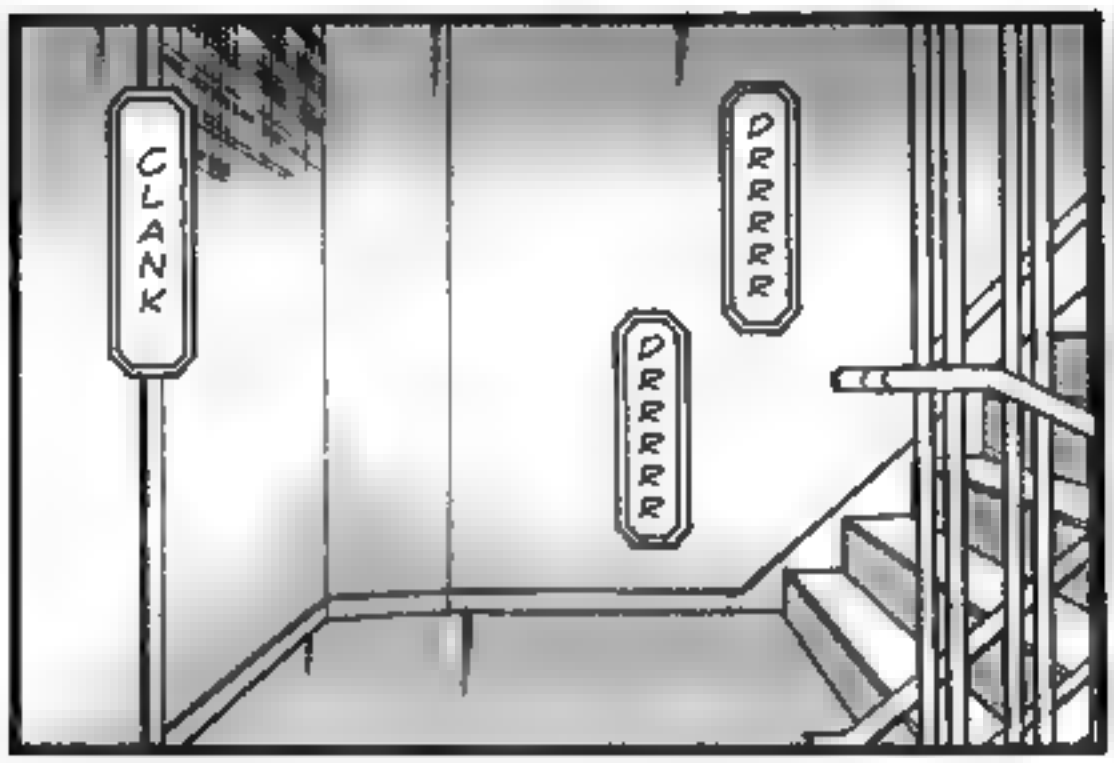
ﾘﾝﾘﾝ

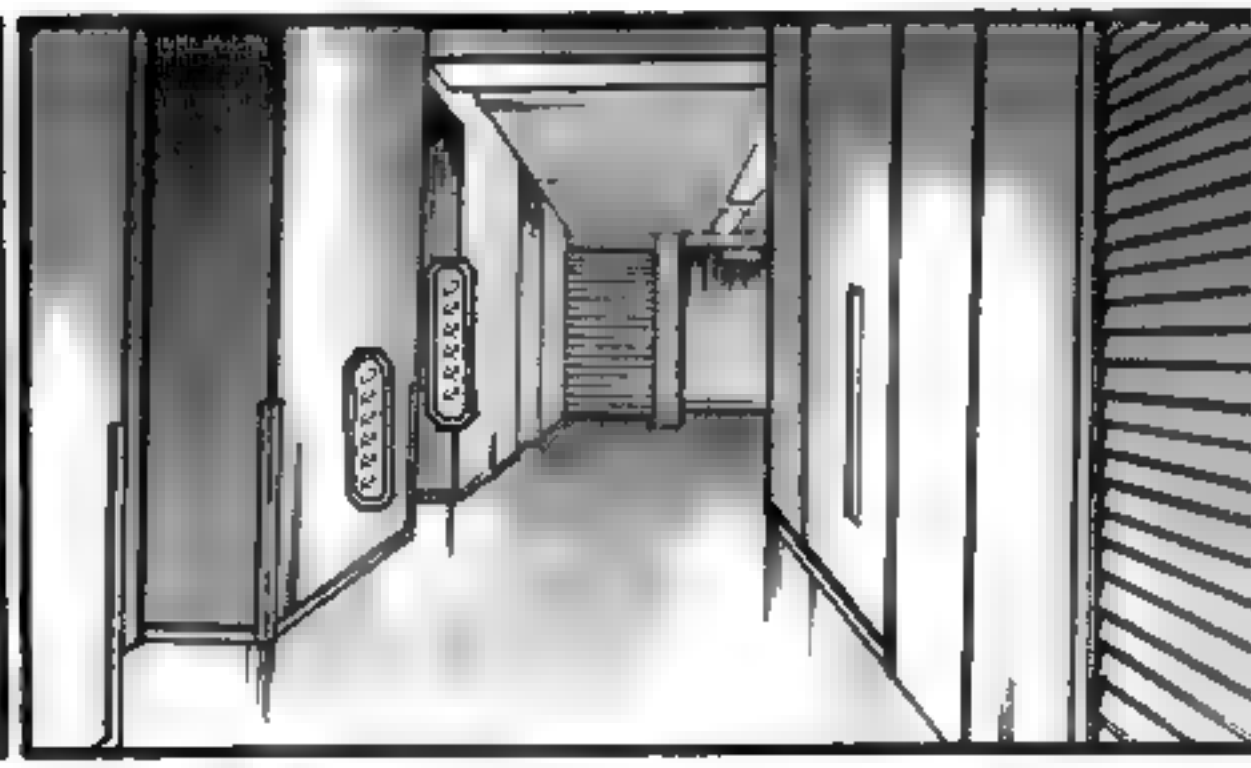
ﾘﾝﾘﾝ

HEY, THE LIGHTS ARE COMPLETELY OUT IN SALES OR WHAT?!

……

HE'S STILL AROUND
AGA-WA-KUN'S SUIT-CASE …


CLANK
DRRRR
DRRRR



GWOOSH RUMBLE CRACK

UH, YES. I AM.
SORRY.
WIND? YOU'RE OUTSIDE ?

RENA?
YES?
…IT'S ME.

A GUY'S VOICE..?

WHO IS IT?

UH..

YES.

ゴゴゴゴ

HEY, COME HERE FOR A SECOND!

RIGHT. LATER, THEN.

YES. USE THE KEY DOUBLE I GAVE YOU.

...MH-HM.

OH, AND IF YOU GET THERE FIRST, JUST LET YOUR-SELF IN.

AH. EX-CUSE ME.

I'LL LEAVE WORK IN A MINUTE. SEE YOU AT MY PLACE.

.....

19

.....

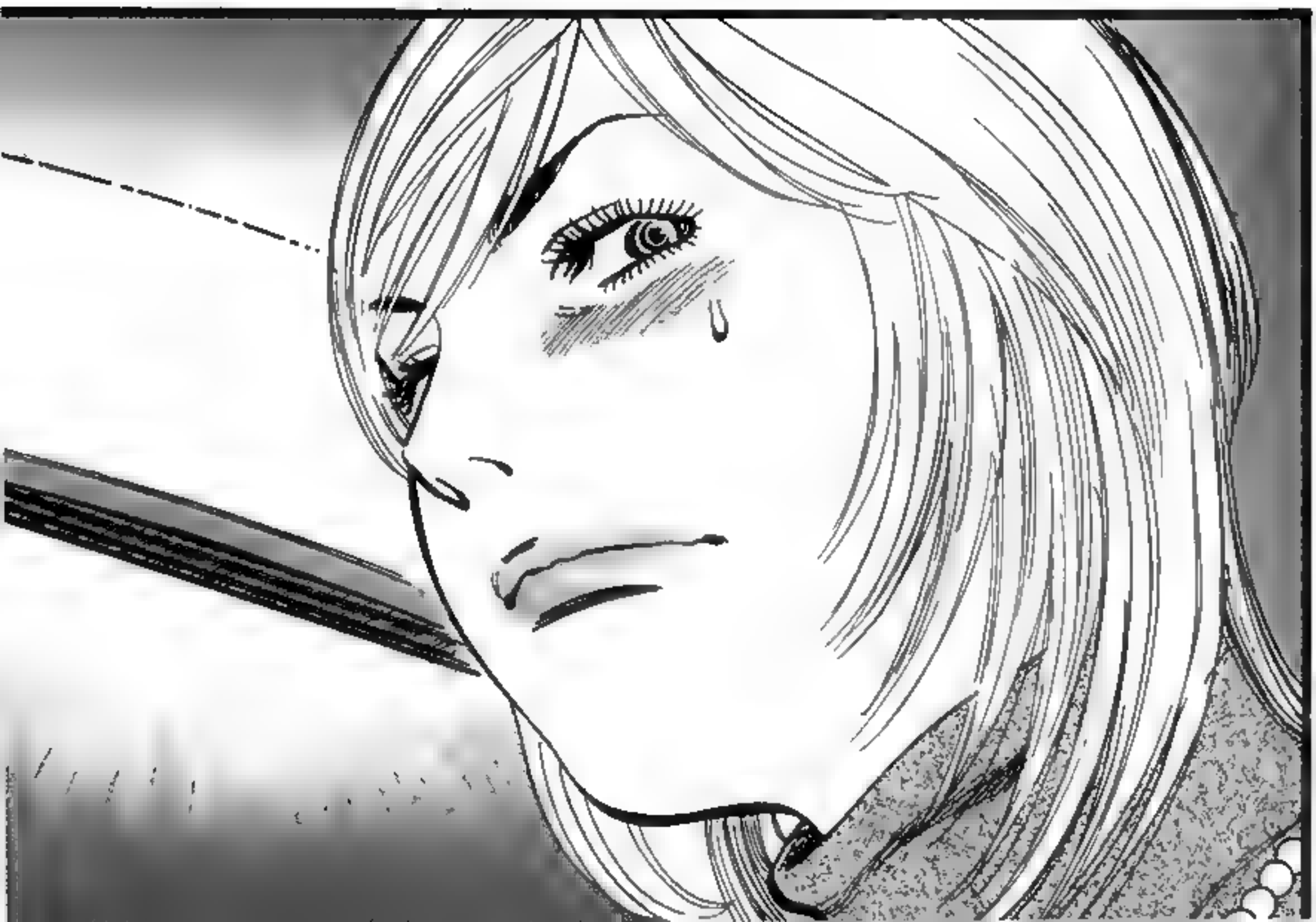
THAT WAS A GUY'S VOICE... WASN'T IT?

.....

ﾊﾞﾀﾝ

AH...

CHAPTER 28 - I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE



WAIT!!

Lôvre

IT'S A MISUNDER-STANDING!

2

LOOK AT ME! I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!

COME ON!!

THAT PHONE CALL WASN'T WHAT YOU THINK IT IS!!

.....

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'M THINKING RIGHT NOW? ARE YOU A MIND READER?

A "MIS-UNDER-STAND-ING".

VING

THAT'S CHILD-ISH..

WHAT THE...

SOME-ONE IS COMING.

LET GO

WAI..?!

YOU'VE READ MY MESSAGES, HAVEN'T YOU?

I HAVEN'T.

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TALK TO YOU SINCE MONDAY.

I'VE CHANGED MY MIND!

YOU MESSAGED ME YESTERDAY ABOUT IT!

IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT PHONE CALL, ISN'T IT?

.....

WH... WHY?

.....

THAT RUNAWAY GIRL YOU SPENT THE NIGHT WITH A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO. YOU'VE TAKEN HER IN, RIGHT?

EVEN HANDED HER A DOUBLE OF YOUR KEYS.

THERE YOU HAVE IT...

SURE, SHE'S INDEED THE GIRL WHO PROMPTED ME INTO DATING YOU...

!

I MEAN, THERE'S NOT ANYTHING BETWEEN US YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT ..!!

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL YOU SINCE MONDAY!

WHATEVER YOU DO, WHOEVER YOU DO IT WITH, I'M NOT GONNA STOP YOU.

LAST TIME I CHECKED, WE WEREN'T MARRIED.

WORRY ABOUT WHAT?

IT'S A BLOODY MISTAKE, I'M TELLING YOU!!

INCOMPETENT, WHATEVER!!

HOWEVER!

WHY WON'T YOU LISTEN TO ME, TH..

THAT'S A LET-DOWN!

.....

INCOMP-ETENT LIAR.

YOU JUST HAD TO MAKE IT THAT OBVIOUS. EASILY UNNERVED ON DATES.

PFEIL.

.....

AH...

.....

SOMETIMES, IT GETS ANNOYING

THAT'S THE PROBLEM, WHEN YOU'RE DATING A GUY

REMEMBER?

WE MADE A PROMISE, AT THE BEGINNING –

DEPRES-SING.

..AS LONG AS I SEE FIT.

OUR AFFAIR ONLY LASTS_

...AS IF IT NEVER HAPPENED.

WE FORGET WHATEVER THERE WAS IN THE MEANTIME ...

NO MORE CHASING EACH OTHER.

.....

.....

NO!!!

IR
TION-
P
ER!

DON'T MAKE ME REGRET THIS.

DON'T DISAPPOINT ME FURTHER.

NO, I WON'T!

LE-LET ME FINISH THIS PROPERLY!

I_

IF YOU END IT HERE_

IF_

.....

AND I'LL REGRET IT THE ENTIRE TIME_

I WILL REMEMBER THIS DAY FOR YEARS. FOR DECADES.

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE

I CAN'T _

I DON'T WANT THAT

DO YOU REALLY HATE ME?

.....

WITHOUT EVEN GIVING ME A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN MYSELF?

CAN YOU TOSS EVERYTHING OUT OF THE WINDOW SO EASILY?

CAN YOU FORGET THESE TWO MONTHS?

.....

I STILL HAVE FEELINGS FOR YOU, ASOU-SAN.

I LOVE YOU.

THAT'S...

...ENOUGH !!

JUST STOP IT!!

YOU SPEAK LIKE A LITTLE CHILD!

.....

I DON'T WANNA FEEL THIS WAY ANYMORE. IT'S UN-SIGHTLY_

...NO MORE.

THAT'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS ...

FROM DAY ONE...

...HATED ABOUT YOU!!

I'M BOUND TO START WONDERING WHAT YOU REALLY MEAN BY IT.

IT'S UN-SETTLING.

IF YOU KEEP THROWING AROUND THE WORD "LOVE" SO EASILY

UH?

...IT MAKES IT EVEN WORSE.

BUT...

...SINCE I REALLY WANT TO BELIEVE YOU...

THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO DATE A MAN TO BEGIN WITH.

THAT'S WHAT I HATE ABOUT LOVE.

WHAT'S SO UNSIGHTLY ABOUT IT..?

IF I CAN'T TELL IF IT'S BLACK OR WHITE, I DON'T DEAL WITH IT

WORK.

SCHOOL.

...BUT I'VE ALWAYS LIKED THINGS WHERE POTENTIAL GAINS AND LOSSES COULD BE ACCURATELY ESTIMATED.

TELL ME IT'S UNWOMANLY, I DON'T CARE...

AND I JUST CAN'T TAKE IT I CAN'T.

BECAUSE WHEN THERE IS SOMEONE WHOSE APPROVAL YOU SEEK ...

...THERE'S ALWAYS A RISK THAT THEY WON'T GIVE IT TO YOU

I HATE TO LET OTHER PEOPLE JUDGE ME ON THEIR EMOTIONS.

PRETTY.

CUTE, OR WHAT-EVER...

BECAUSE...

I WON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH MYSELF IF THAT HAPPENS.

WHAT IF A GIRL SHOWS UP AND YOU FIND HER PRETTIER THAN ME?

MERELY REMEMBERING THAT YOU'RE YOUNGER...

AT THE MERE THOUGHT OF IT I JUST...

...IS ENOUGH FOR JEALOUSY TO MERCILESSLY TEAR AT MY HEART.

.....

.....

BUT ...

...IT'S JUST PATHETIC ...

...PUTTING YOU ON THE GRILL ...

I'VE BEEN CHEWING YOU OUT...

IF HE DOES, I WON'T KNOW WHERE TO HIDE...

I DON'T WANT THE MAN I LOVE TO SEE THAT UGLY SIDE OF ME.

17

...I'VE SEEN MANY DIFFERENT FACETS OF YOUR PERSONALITY

DURING THESE TWO MONTHS...

I WANNA KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU.

AND THAT WAS JUST ANOTHER ONE. I WANT MORE.

...THE FACET OF YOURS THAT HAS LEFT THE STRONGEST IMPRESSION SO FAR...

GOTTA ADMIT, THOUGH ...

.....

.....

...WAS YOUR FAULT.

THAT ONE...

STARK NAKED. LOOMING OVER ME, WITH MURDER IN YOUR EYES...

HAAAAA

YOU STARTED POUNDING ME WITH A PILLOW, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

...IS THE ONE I SAW WHEN I WAS AT YOUR PLACE.

SZHUU

.....

EEEEEEK

AND SINCE I WAS STILL HALF-ASLEEP ...

YOU USED THE TOILETS AND FORGOT TO PUT DOWN THE LID.

.....

I MERELY KEPT QUIET ABOUT IT.

IT HAPPENED TWICE AGAIN, EVEN AFTER THAT

...THAT WAS THE SCARIEST FACE YOU'D EVER MADE.

EITHER WAY...

..YOU REFER TO ME AS "THE MAN YOU LOVE"

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...

..YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME.

THE FIRST TIME...

.....

...THAT I EVER LOVED A MAN AND LET HIM KNOW ABOUT IT.

THE FIRST TIME SINCE I WAS BORN...

I'VE BEEN UNABLE TO SO FAR, FOR SOME REASON. WHY?

THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME...

...I SUPPOSE I HAVE.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "I SUPPOSE"_?

ASOU-SAN.

I LOVE YOU TOO.

...IS THAT INSIGNI-FICANT LITTLE WORD.

WHEN ALL IT TAKES TO SAY IT...

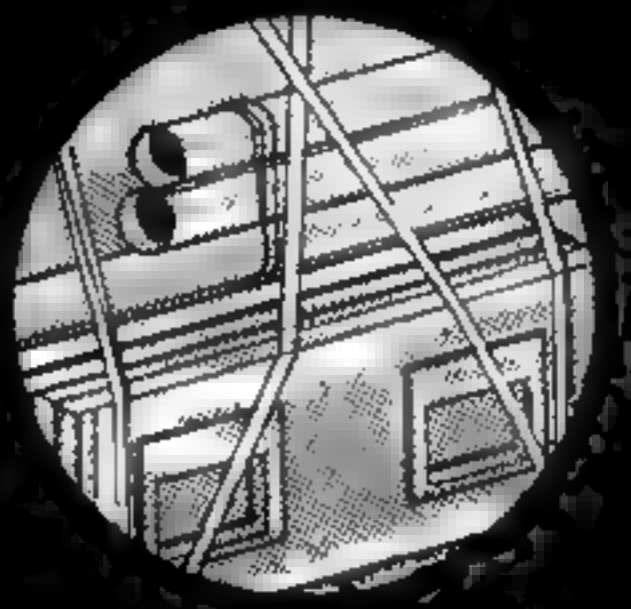
YEAH.

I LOVE YOU.

AGAWA-KUN.

I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU.

SAKURANBO SYNDROME [CUPID'S PRANK II] (3). THE END.



クピドの裏側。

Making of “Cupid Ⅱ”.

AN INSIDER'S VIEW OF THE SERIES' PRODUCTION,
DELIVERED BY THE AUTHOR. AND A BIT OF A MIXED BAG.
PLEASE COME ALONG.

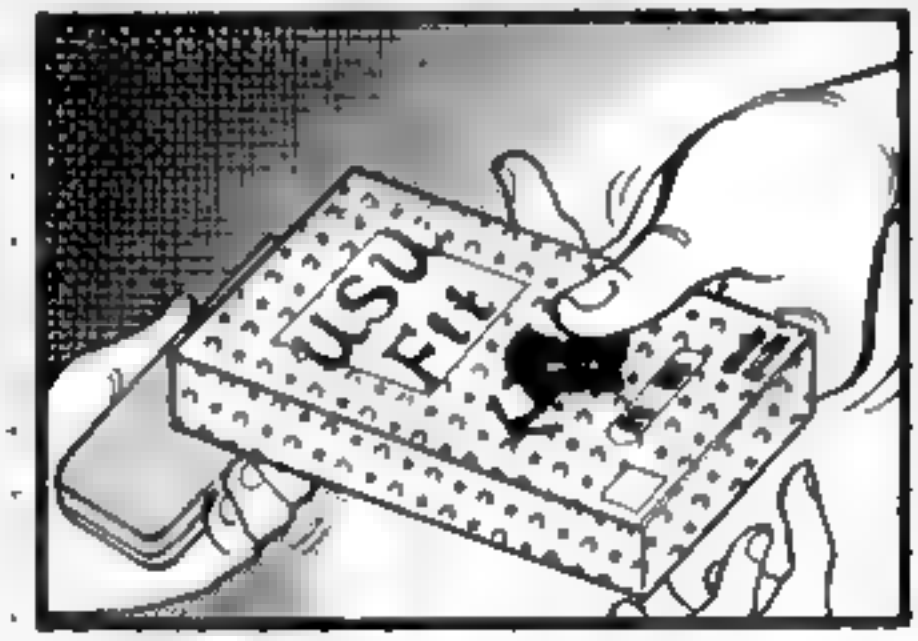
[TIGER SMILEY.] CHAPTER 23
ASOU-SAN'S "RAAAWR " WAS REMINISCENT OF THAT OF A FIERCE TIGER, IT SEEMS.

[RENA'S BOOK.] CHAPTER 23
SHE'S READING THE ORIGINAL "ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND." THAT'S THE CONCENTRATION OF A COLLEGE STUDENT, NO DOUBT. IT SAYS SHE STUDIES JAPANESE LITERATURE ON HER STUDENT CARD, THOUGH.

[MAJOR SADIST VIBE.] CHAPTER 25
OR THAT'S WHAT HE THINKS. IN THE NEXT CHAPTER, SHE'S THE ONE FLATTENING HIM (LOL). AS FAR AS S&M GO, I RECKON THAT BARRING ANY STRONG INNATE TENDENCIES ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, EVERYONE IS A BIT OF BOTH.

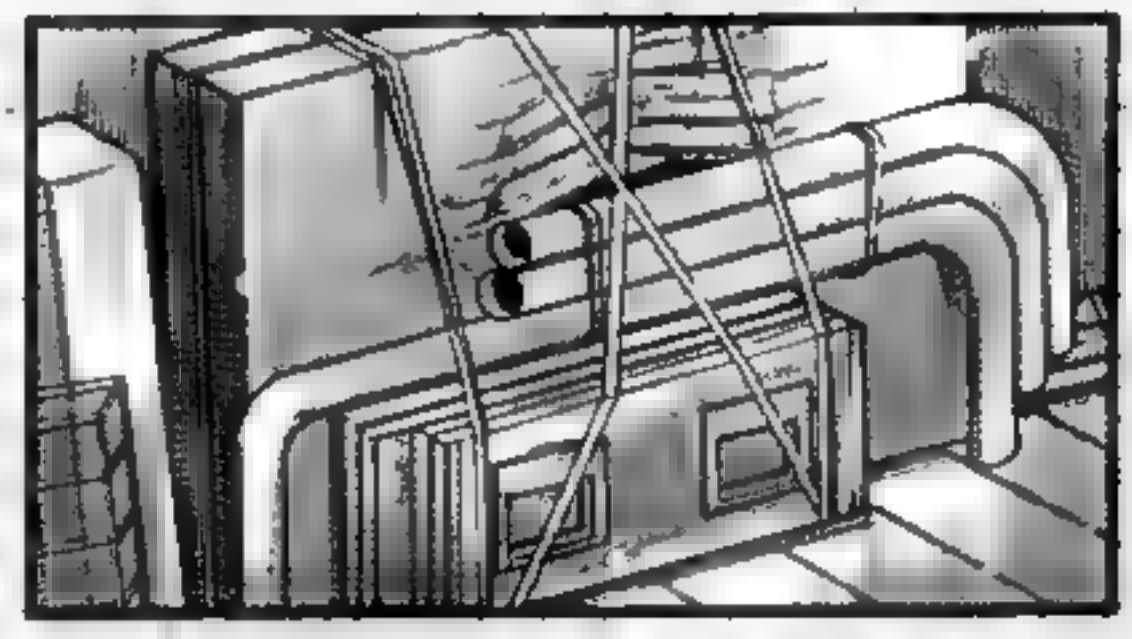
[ANIMALS ARE MOST DANGEROUS WHEN THEY'RE CORNERED] CHAPTER 22
HIS BACK TO THE WALL, AGAWA-KUN TAKES THE FIGHT RIGHT BACK AT THE ENEMY!
WHAT A RESOURCEFUL MAN!!
...THE AUTHOR DOESN'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HIS AVERAGE PERFORMANCE IS, SO HE DIDN'T DRAW ABOUT THAT (LOL).

[USU FIT] CHAPTER 22
OFFICIAL PURVEYORS FOR THE CUPID SERIES.



[BIGGER BREASTS] CHAPTER 26
AS THE ACTRESS WHO STARS IN THE NIJIDAMA FLIPPED THROUGH MY WORK, SHE POINTED OUT MY "TASTE FOR LARGE BREASTS".
CUE MY BEING FLAILING AROUND, EXPLAINING THAT "WELL, WHEN I WAS A TEEN I LIKED THEM SMALLER...!!"
.....EEERM, TRUTH IS, I LIKE THEM EITHER WAY (LOL).

[DISMANTLED BED] CHAPTER 27
THIS IS THE BED ASOU-SAN BROKE IN VOLUME 2.



[WHERE RENA WAS] CHAPTER 27
THIS VOLUME MOSTLY REVOLVED AROUND THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ASOU-SAN AND AGAWA-KUN, BUT IT SEEMS RENA HAS BEEN MOVING AROUND QUITE A LOT HERSELF.
MORE ABOUT THAT IN THE 4TH VOLUME!!

..... Making of "Cupid". To be continued.

麻生&れな

「は…はじめまして……」

Young Sunday Comics

さくらんぼシンドローム

クピドの悪戯II

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そのあと愛はどうなるの？

あなたならどうする？

残り7発、究極の

カウントダウンに

直面した睦月智也

（21・童貞）の

恋と人生——

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クピド Cupid

の悪戯（いたずら） 虹玉

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